



164th Infantry Regiment Publications

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164th Infantry News: October 2006

164th Infantry Association

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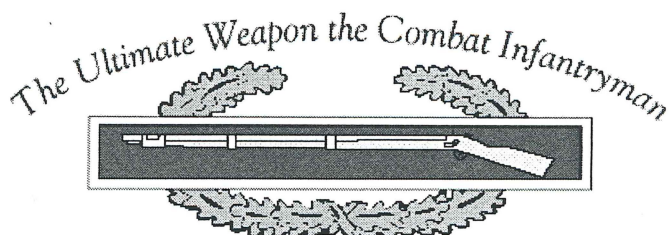
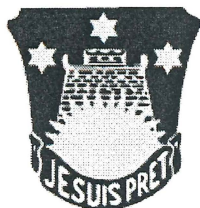
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THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

Vol. 47, No. 3

October, 2006

164th Infantry Association Reunion --Remembering Your Soldiers and Your History--

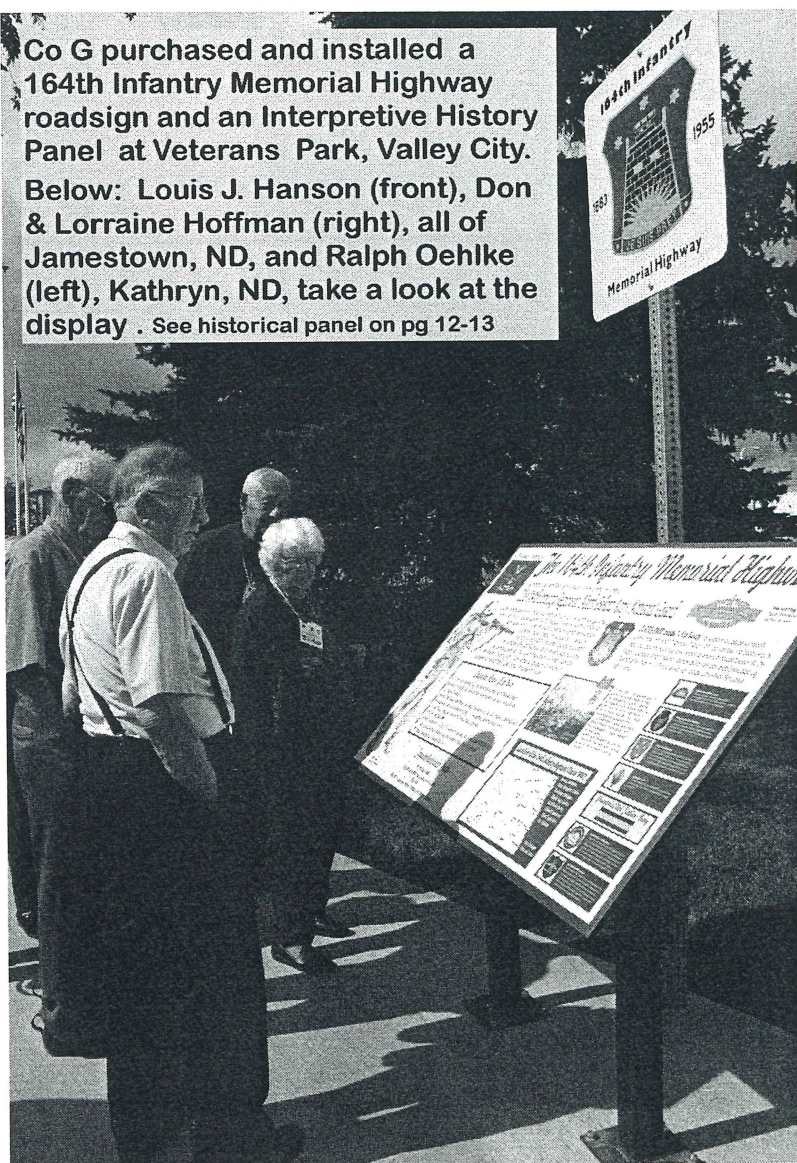
The annual reunion of the 164th Infantry Association of the United States brought veterans, members, associate members, and friends together to remember and celebrate the rich history of the 164th Infantry Regiment. The reunion was held in Valley City, ND, the former home station of Company G, 164 Infantry Regiment, as well as Battery D, 188th Field Artillery (155 Howitzer), which served in the European Theatre of Operations during WWII. The displays in Veterans Park on Main Street of Valley City include a flag plaza, the Ten Commandments engraved in granite, a 155 mm Howitzer, an Air National Guard F-104 Starfighter, and now, the historical information of the 164th Infantry Regiment!

Reunion attendees were treated to delicious meals; numerous performances throughout the weekend from the talented members of the 188th Army National Guard Band, Fargo; lots of time for visiting with old friends; an unveiling of the historical highway displays; and a very touching Memorial Service before the banquet.



Above: Francis Dahl (left) stands watch as Erling Dahl extinguishes a candle as each name on the Last Roll Call is read by Chaplain Tom Vagle during the evening Memorial Service. President Bernie Wagner & wife, Mary, are seated at the head table. See more Memorial Service on page 2....

Co G purchased and installed a 164th Infantry Memorial Highway roadsign and an Interpretive History Panel at Veterans Park, Valley City. Below: Louis J. Hanson (front), Don & Lorraine Hoffman (right), all of Jamestown, ND, and Ralph Oehlke (left), Kathryn, ND, take a look at the display. See historical panel on pg 12-13



Memorial Service Held during Reunion Banquet

NAMES REPORTED THROUGH 10 SEPTEMBER 2006

William Anundson, 6 Jun 06
Bill Arwood, (WWII) Co E, 11 Mar 03
John R. Barbero, Sr. (LM)(WWII), 25 Nov 05
Howard A Bjerketvedt, (WWII) Co G, 10 Feb 06
Carmelo "Charlie" Borgia (WWII)(LM), 22 Nov 05
Robert O. Bradley (LM), 7 Jul 01
John Cochran, (WWII) Hqs 1st Bn, 30 May 76
Raymond D. Conlon (WWII)(LM), Co B, 4 Nov 05
Clarence Dalzell, (WWII), 23 Jan 06
Warren Frederick Fluharty, (WWII) 12 Aug 05
Joel B. Grotte, (WWII) Co A, 28 Oct 05
William C. Hanson, (WWII)(LM) Co B, 25 Mar 06
CW4 (ret) Ewald Heisler, (K) Tank Co, 22 Jul 06
Robert E. Helsper, (WWII) Co K, 14 Aug 92
Robert Hess, 12 Nov 05
Harold Hoff, 15 Sep 05
Everett C. Hultman, (WWII) Co L, 24 Sep 94
Waldemar C. "Wally" Johnson (LM), 5 Jan 06

Howard Lauter (WWII)(LM), Co H, 26 Mar 04
Avery John Leger, 3 Oct 05
CPT (ret) Weston L. Maly, 24 Jul 06
Morton "Jerry" Marks, (WWII) Co C, 13 Oct 03
Hiram O. McAdow (WWII), 23 May 05
Bernard T. Minnehan, (WWII) 28 Oct 05
Lyle Frank Mollet, (WWII) Medic, 21 Feb 06
Bruce L. Moore, (WWII)(LM), 28 Jan 06
Elmer L. Montgomery (WWII), 16 Jul 06
Raynold E. Nelson (LM), 16 Jan 03
Merritt O. Ogren, (WWII) Hqs Det 3rd Bn, 30 Jun 06
Wallace G. "Bud" Olson, (WWII) Co L, 20 Mar 05
Marcy A. Paul, 13 Sep 05
Richard Pierzina, (WWII) Co D, 2 Mar 03
Joel Togstad, (K) Svc Co, 6 Feb 06
Ernest Tolliver, (WWII) Co A, 9 Jan 00
Isaias V. Vasquez, (WWII) Co I, 29 Jun 91
Louis L. Yearke (WWII) Co M, 25 Jul 06



Last Roll Call
Ray Kreidelkamp solemnly strikes the chime and Erling Dahl extinguishes a candle as each of the above names was announced during the Memorial Service.
At left, the mallet strikes the chime. Below, SGT Tim Knabe sounds Taps at the close of the service.



POW/MIA Remembered
An empty chair.
An unused table setting.
A beautiful symbolic tribute by Chaplain Vagle reminded us of missing comrades at arms.

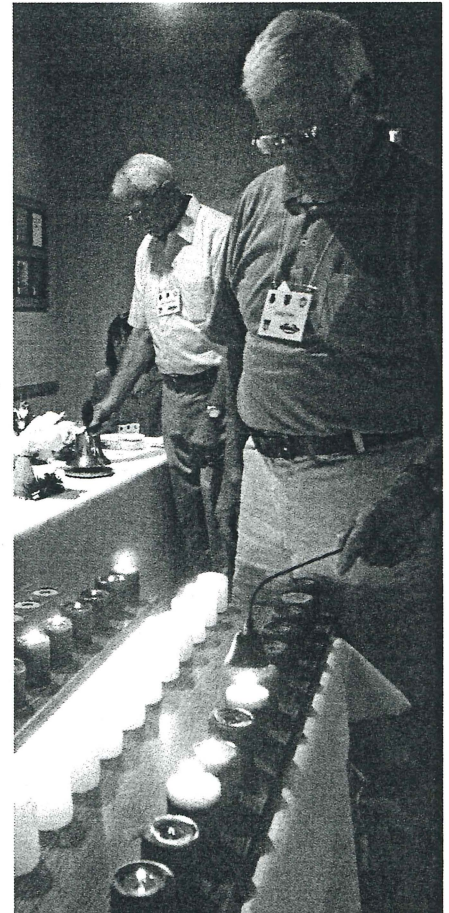
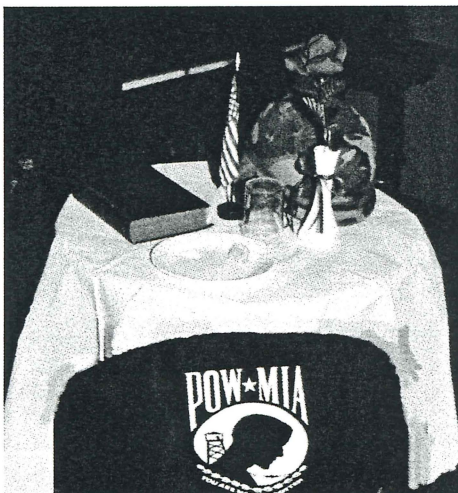
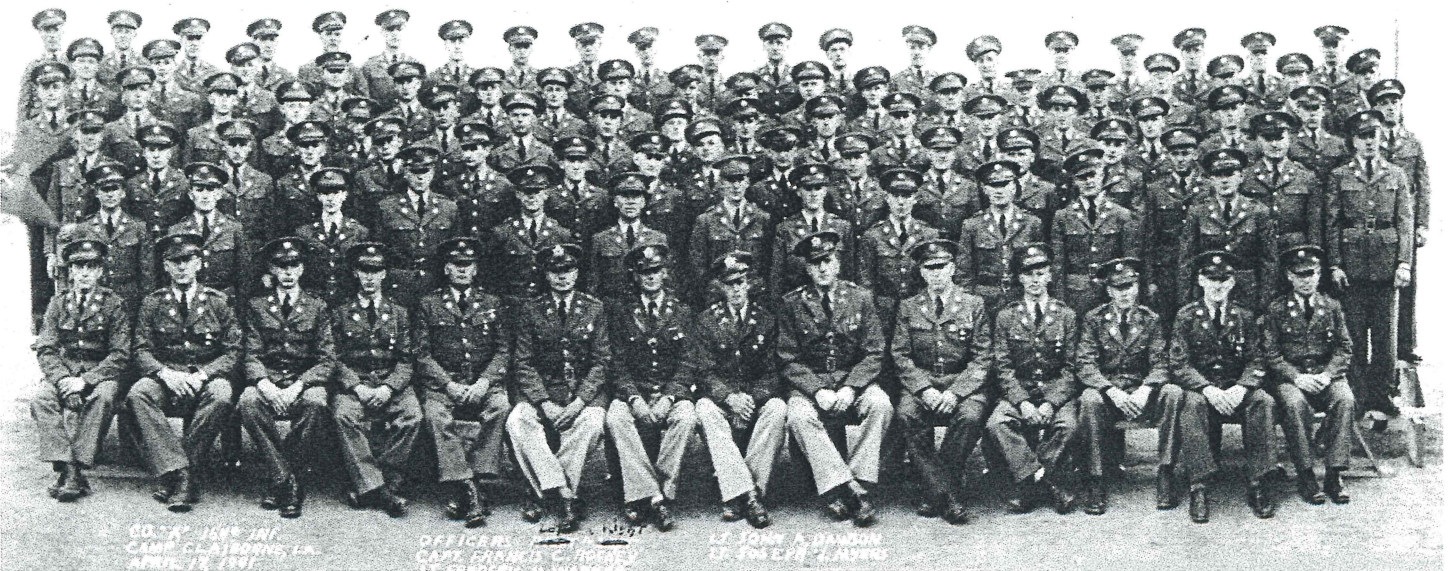


Photo by Jim Drong

Hqs Det, 3rd Bn, Williston/Edgeley: Photo brought to the Reunion by Melvin Bork



Co A, Bismarck: Photo brought to the Reunion by Susan Tolliver-Pompa (Ernest Tolliver's daughter)



Between names gathered at the reunion and a partial list on the back of a photo owned by Greg Heinz, the following names are available for this company picture:

L to R: **Row 6** Julius Zinke, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Gerry Longmuir, Pat Reilly, Joe or Earl Sprecher, Joel Grothe, Eino J. Kavonius, Ramus Roberson, Pete Patrick, Bruce Hjelle, Dick Myers, Arnold Bauer, Cecil Nelson, David O'Rourke, Merlin Scott, Ray Patton **Row 5** John Weigel, John Dinius, Joe "Jobie" Schmidt, Ernie Tolliver, Ronald "Dubs" Davis, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Ray Baesler, Unknown, Ernest Gilbertson, Ted Goth, Unknown, Unknown, Dick Carr, A. "Pete" Schumacher **Row 4** Kenny Schauss, Don Stevens, Unknown, Billy Owens, Unknown, Unknown, Emil Shock, Harold Krause, Unknown, Joey Schneider, Claude or Warner Mummert, Aloysius Moszer, Unknown, Tony Sturn, Ewald Bauer, Unknown, Unknown, Oliver Kendall **Row 3** Harry Vadnie, Emil Rahn, Anton or Isadore Reidinger, Wayne Jennings, Ralph "Mink" Major, Jerry Voight, Dennis Ferk, Joe Haluzak, Harold Caya, Unknown, Unknown, Luke Alex, Pete Lepo, ? Riedinger, Joe Emil, Russel Raiswig **Row 2** Only one man identified at reunion #7 is Erwin A. Ventsch **Row 1** Names on original picture plus 2 filled in at the reunion, from L to R #s 6-10 Capt. Francis C. Rockey, Lt. Frederic M. Wanner, Lt. John A. Dawson, Lt. Joseph V. Myers, C.N. McClure, # 13 Joe Bride

Can anyone identify the "unknowns" in this photo?



Above, John Geston* (son of Matthew Geston, Co C) & wife Carolyn, take a look at the enlarged copy of the Co A photo that Sue brought to the Reunion.

REUNION HAPPENINGS



Above, Jim Drong carries his camera at the ready as he retires the regimental colors at the close of the Saturday night events.



Pete Grant, Co G, poses beside his old uniform, which is now owned and displayed by collector Greg Heinz. Grant served in both the WWII and Korean wars.



Left: Bob McAllister drills mounting bolts to finish installing the 164 Highway Interpretive Panel in Veterans Park.



Photo by Jim Drong



Above Right: Pat Drong checks Steve Chemistruck's name tags and tickets during registration on Friday night.

Left: Earl Busche and wife Connie attended the banquet. Earl's brother, Melvin, Co G, was killed at Guadalcanal. His brother Reinhardt was also in Co G. Earl served in the Navy, and another brother, Walter, served in the Army.



Below: Carol Moore (Right) and husband Sid pose with Military Memory Quilt they displayed at the reunion. Each block has a photo and a bit of history for each military member of their families. More on that in a future issue!

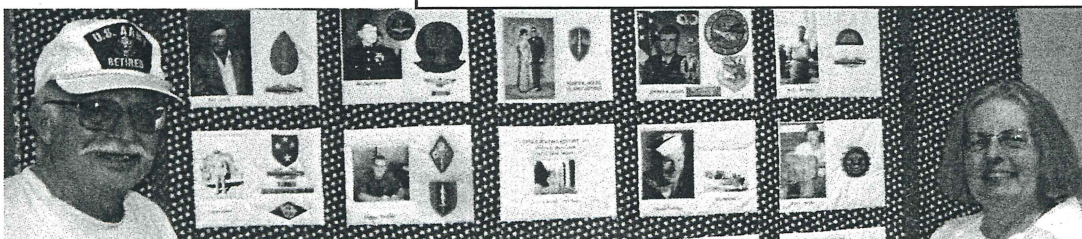


Photo by Jim Drong

Mayor Mary Lee Nielsen welcomed the Association on Saturday morning.

If your picture doesn't appear anywhere else in this issue, you'll likely find it here...

Spouses, Friends, & Significant Others



Top Row: Dorothy (Melvin) Bork, Lois (Stephen) Chemistruck, Alba (Ellis-deceased) Clancy, Jean (Erling) Dahl, Joyce (Francis) Dahl, June (Pete) Grant, Lorraine (Bill) Hagen, Agnes Manthey [Hammargren], Lorraine (Don) Hoffman, Marilyn (George) Laughlin, **Bottom Row:** Pearl (Ralph) Oehlke, Marguerite (Merrit-deceased) Ogren, Beth (Gerald) Pedersen, Harriet (Gerald) Pierson, Leila Lehmann [Sanderson], Ruth Myhre [Shaver], Marilyn (Gerald) Skogley, Borgny (Hank) Violet, Jennie (Bill) Welander, Mary Ann (Dave) Winkler. **Not pictured:** Dolores (Rudy) Edwardson, Dorothy (Vince) Olson, Hetty (Chuck) Walker, Eunice (Wendell) Wichmann. *(Editor—I can't believe this many ladies eluded my camera!)*

Daughters, Sons, and A Marine!



Daughters L-R: Mary Simpkins [Al Wiest], Sue Tolliver-Pompa* [Ernest Tolliver-dec'd], Mary Lou Drain* [Bill Tucker]
More Daughters L-R: Patricia Conlon, Mary Lizakowski, Barbara Dunn, Beverly Welletin* [Ray Conlin-deceased]



Far L: Kevin Summers [son of Roy, deceased]
L-R: Dave Kloster, son of Lynn Kloster (center), 164th Band (WWII), & daughter-in-law, Candy.



L: Bill Doolittle, 1st Marine Reg't, says he sure was glad to see the Army boys show up on Guadalcanal, where he served from 7Aug – 29 Dec '42.

Members Who Missed the Unit Photos



Above, Lois Riedman, Punk Dahl's sister in law, takes a spin around the dance floor with Joshua Simmer, 188 Band, who is wearing his grandfather's WWII uniform.



Horace Nearhood, Co B, Toledo, OH, brought along one of his "combat soldier" carved walking sticks. He donated a walking stick a couple of years ago, he says, for a reunion door prize drawing.



Reinhold 'Rhiny' Weber, Valley City, Co G, served in the ETO in WWII. He was a **Prisoner of War** 26 Oct 44 to 1 May 45 in Stalag 7A, Mooseberg, Germany.

These guys avoided the Camera for the entire weekend: Elroy Greuel, Milt Kane, & Dave Lokken



Eugene Sauer, Co G, a retired Burlington Northern employee, rode the rails for free from Spokane to Fargo to attend the reunion.

He served 18 months in the 35-man Korean Military Advisory Group. Sauer happened to see **Francis Dahl** (35th Div) in Korea and treated him to a Good Friday meal in the KMAG mess. Punk Dahl confirmed this, and said they hadn't seen each other since then. In Rome, 1959, Sauer attended Pope's mass on Christmas day and chatted with the King and Queen of Denmark, who were seated in the row behind him.

164th Infantry Association of the United States

Minutes: Annual Meeting, Saturday, 16 Sep 06, Valley City, ND

The annual meeting was called to order by President Bernard Wagner at 9:00 AM at the Senior Center.

Officers present: Bernard Wagner, President; Ray Kreidlkamp, Vice President; Francis Dahl, Acting Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem by 188th Army Band Chorus

Benediction by Chaplain Tom Vagle

Welcome by Valley City Mayor Mary Lee Nielson

Musical selection by 188th Army Band Chorus

Minutes of the 2005 meeting were read by Francis Dahl. Vince Olson made a motion to accept as read with a second by Sid Moore. Carried.

Owen Wallace read the Financial Statement. The report was accepted as read.

Warren Ventsch gave the Scholarship Report. Nurse trainees have been added to eligibility list. Four applications were given out but there was no follow through on them. There is \$2,000 plus available for scholarships.

The Reunion site for the 2007 Reunion will be in Valley City, ND, September 14, 15, 16, 2007.

The nominating committee gave the names of Bernard Wagner – President, and Ray Kreidlkamp – Vice President. With Ben Kemp resigning, it was decided to look for someone to fill the position. The nominations passed. President Wagner asked Shirley if she would be Editor of the Newsletter again. She agreed to be the Editor. Ben and Vern agreed to be her advisors.

New Business: Joe Castagneto brought up the question of having a speaker at the banquet. After discussion the President stated that there would be no speaker as in prior years.

President Wagner asked if there was anyone interested in being the representative to serve on the Commission for the Americal Division Magazine. As of now there is no one interested. He will look into getting one. The person has to be a member of the Americal Division Association and also a member of the 164th Infantry Association.

As there was no further business Owen Wallace made a motion to adjourn, second by Don Hoffman. Passed. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Francis Dahl, Acting Secretary

**YOU can help save mailing expenses
*SEND IN YOUR 2007 DUES
RIGHT NOW!***

Then Pat won't have to mail you a reminder.
We could significantly cut mailing costs if annual members would send in their dues for 2007 now, before a reminder is necessary.
So, get out the Checkbook – There's no better time than right now!

Annual Dues \$10, or Life Membership \$50

Mail to our new Secretary/Treasurer

Pat Drong. Box 192. Sanborn. ND 58480

164TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT FROM SEPTEMBER 2005 THRU AUGUST 2006

AUG 2005 CD BAL \$20,067.32
AUG 2005 CHK BK \$ 8,428.15

AUG 2006 CD BAL \$ 0.00
AUG 2006 CHK BK \$19,013.86
DUE from Co G \$ 2068.73
NET WORTH \$21,082.59

MONTH	INCOME	EXPENSES
SEP 05	\$2.59	\$500.00
OCT 05	\$476.51	\$1472.36
NOV 05	\$4975.00	\$1206.06
DEC05	\$2769.79	\$348.64
JAN 06	\$736.50	\$685.35
FEB 06	\$275.03	\$259.70
MAR 06	\$800.30	\$1459.06
CD Transfer	\$20,421.15	-----
APR 06	\$15.68	\$0
MAY 06	\$323.91	\$0
JUN 06	\$220.75	\$80
JUL 06	\$498.12	\$14,602.73
AUG 06	\$289.12	\$50.00
	\$31,804.45	\$20,663.90

LARGE EXPENSES in 2006

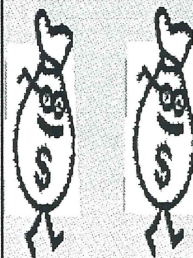
6 Highway Interpretive Panels \$12,412.40
15 Highway Road Signs \$1,116.69
3 Issues News – Printing/Mailing \$4,015.42

I CERTIFY THAT THIS REPORT IS TRUE
AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY
KNOWLEDGE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING
31 AUGUST 2006

SECRETARY/TREASURER
BENNET J. KEMP

164TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REPORT As of August 2006

164 MEMBERS 392
LIFE MEMBERS 164
ANNUAL MEMBERS 228
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 155
ASSOC LIFE MEMBERS 74
ASSOC ANNUAL MEMB. 81
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 547



\$164 WINNERS!!

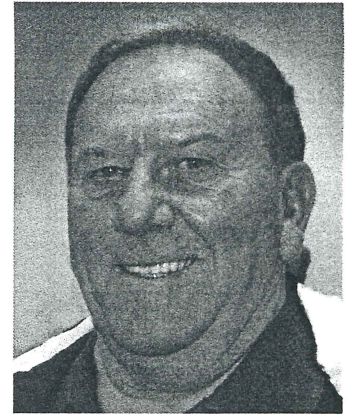
Gail Opat*,
Spring, TX

Jane Rothrock*,
Seal Beach, CA
Warren Ventsch,
Valley City, ND

Folks Who Attended the 2006 Reunion

MEMBER	SPOUSE/GUEST	UNIT
Bork, Melvin	Dorothy	H3
Burkhart, Karl		Co G
Castagneto, Joseph		Co A
Chemistruck, Stephen	Lois	AntiTank
Clancy, Alba* (Ellis)	Judith Von Bank	(Svc Co)
Dahl, Erling	Jean	Co G
Dahl, Francis	Joyce	Co G
Diaz, Peter	Gilbert	Svc Co
Doolittle, Bill	1 st Regiment, 1 st Marine Division	
Drong, Pat*	Jim (photographer)	Conf Planner
Edwardson, Rudy	Dolores	Co F
Fetch, Vern	Exec Committee	Svc Co
Geston, John* & Carolyn	(Matthew's Son)	(Co c)
Goven, John		Medics
Grant, Peter	June	Co G
Greuel, Elroy		Regt Hqs
Griffin, Tony		Co G
Hagen, William	Lorraine	Co B
Hammargren, Filmore	Agnes Manthey	Co L
Hanson, Louis J.		H2, Co E
Harstad, Darrel	LaVonne Zinck	Driver
Heinz, Greg*		Exhibitor
Hoffman, Don	Lorraine	Co H
Kemp, Ben	Exec Committee	
Kloster, Lynn	Dave (son) & Candy	Band
Kreidlkamp, Ray	Betty	Co G
Laughlin, George	Marilyn	Co F
Lokken, Dave		Co G
Lykken, Trumann		Co C
McClure, Neyl	Exec Committee	Co K
Moore, Sidney	Carol	Co K
Nearhood, Horace		Co B
Oehlke, Ralph	Pearl	Band, AntiTank
Ogren, Marguerite*	Meredith Meidinger	(H3)
Olgeirson, Shirley J.*		Editor
Olson, Vince	Dorothy	Co G
Otto, Eddie	Dolores	Co G
Pedersen, Gerald	Beth	Co G
Pierson, Gerald	Harriet	Co F
Rosalez, Benjamin		Co C
Sanderson, Gerald	Leila Lehmann	Medics
Sauer, Eugene		Co G
Schuldt, Al*		Exhibitor
Shaver, Kenneth	Ruth Myhre (Anti-T)	Svc Co
Skogley, Gerald	Marilyn	Reg't Hqs
Summers, Kevin*	(Roy's Son)	(Co F)
Tolliver-Pompa, Susan*	(Ernest Tolliver's daughter)	(Co A)
Tucker, William	Mary Lou Drain* (dau)	Co M
Vagle, Tom	Diana	Co G
Ventsch, Warren		Co A
Violett, Henry	Borgny	Co D
Wagner, Bernard	Mary	Co F, G
Walker, Charles	Hetty	H1, AT, B, H2, E, H
Wallace, Owen		Co G
Welander, William	Jennie	H3, Co G
Wellentin, Beverly*	Ray Conlin's daughter	(Co B)
Barb, Mary, Patricia	Ray Conlin's daughters	
Weber, Rhiny		Co G
Wichmann, Wendell	Eunice	H1, Co A
Wiest, Al	Mary Simpkins (dau)	Co H, M
Winkler, Dave	Mary Ann	Co G
Lenzmeier, Ralph		Guest
Martin, Ron		JeepExhibitor
Stensgard, Orlyen		Guest
Wagner, Chuck & JoAl		Speaker

Bennet J. Kemp Resigns After 10 Years as Association Secretary - Treasurer



For 10 years, CW4 (ret) Ben Kemp has been the guy who has answered your questions, tracked memberships, sent out mailings, and recorded the history of the 164th Infantry Association. He also "kept a good set of books", according to Owen Wallace, who read the financial report at this year's business meeting. He even served as interim Editor a couple of years ago, and has been an invaluable advisor to the current editor. In a surprise move, Ben submitted his resignation effective 1 September 2006.

When I asked him how he would be spending all his free time, I got this response by email, in his own words:

I am a member of the American Legion Lloyd Spetz Post # 1, Bismarck, ND, and serve on the Executive Committee and as the Post Chaplain. I also work with "Open Your Heart" program, which distributes food and clothing to the less fortunate at Christmas time.

I'm a member of the 40 & 8, Voiture 291, the "honor and fun" organization of the Legion, and serve as an officer (Conductor). We raise money for nursing students by serving a spaghetti dinner every Tuesday night. I wash dishes. This past year we presented twelve \$500 scholarships to nursing students, plus put \$10,000 into each of the two nursing student's trust funds.

I'm a member of ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve). Our mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and reserve.

A group of us Guard retirees mow grass at the ND Veterans Cemetery once a week. I help when I have time.

I have been working (50 hours per week) as a private contractor to the ND Department of Transportation doing FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) work in the state of North Dakota. I have been doing this the past 7 or 8 years. Normally it takes about 3 or 4 months, but last year we've worked over 9 months.

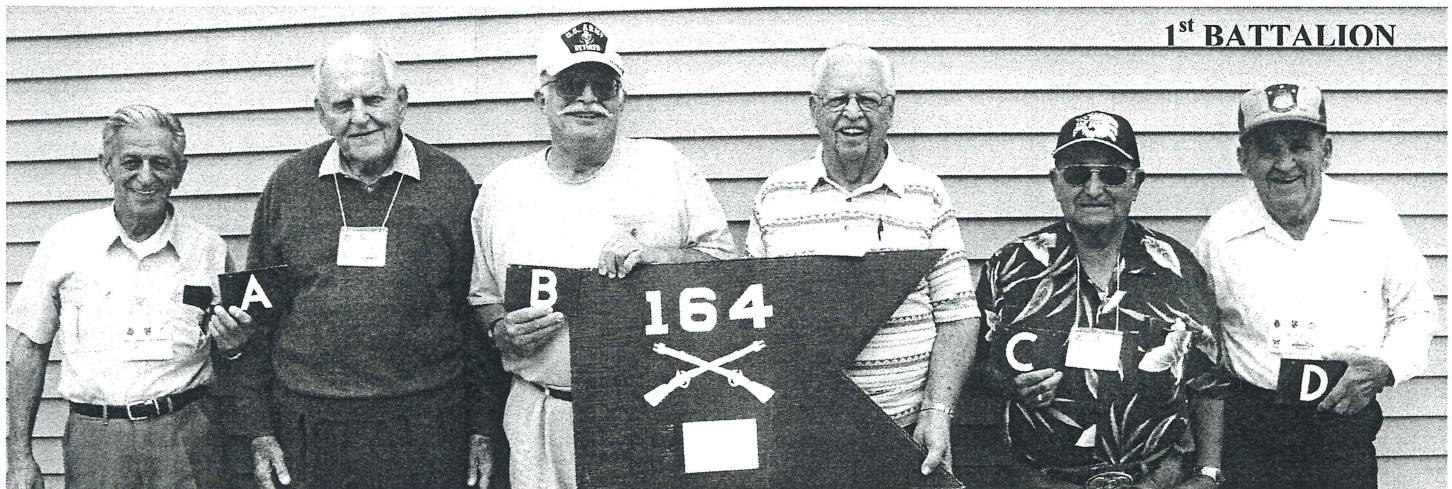
I am a member of the ND military retiree's advisory board. This board was chartered by the Adjutant General as a means to effectively communicate with retirees for the purpose of exchanging information and soliciting volunteer help with various projects.

When I don't have anything to do, I fly radio control airplanes. I have not been able to do this much in the past couple of years, but I am hoping to do so now.

We hope you enjoy all your activities...
Thanks for all you've done for the Association!
We'll Miss You, Ben!!



REGIMENTAL Headquarters Elements



1st BATTALION



2nd BATTALION



3rd BATTALION

UNIT PHOTOS



REGIMENT

HHC: Jerry Skogley,
Col (ret) Vern Fetch
Svc Co:
Peter Diaz, Ken Shaver
Medics: Sandy Sanderson,
Dr (Col, ret) John Goven
AntiTank: Ralph Oehlke,
Stephen Chemistruck

1st BATTALION

Co A:
SGM (ret) Joe Castagneto,
COL (ret) W. Wichmann
Co B: Sid Moore,
Co C: Trumann Lykken,
Ben J. Rosalez,
Co D: Hank Violet.

2nd BATTALION

Co E: Louis J. Hanson
Co F: Gerald Pierson,
George Laughlin,
Rudy Edwardson
Co G: (Back row)
Tony Griffin,
Bill Welander,
Pete Grant, Erling Dahl
Ed Otto
Co G: (kneeling)
Ray Kreidelkamp
Punk Dahl, Karl Burkhardt,
Vince Olson,
SGM (ret) Tom Vagle
Owen Wallace,
Dave Winkler
Co H: Don Hoffman,
Col (ret) Al Wiest.
Chuck Walker

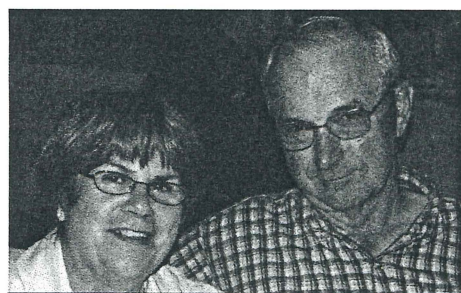
3rd BATTALION

HHD: Mel Bork,
Bill Welander
Co K: Roger Smith,
Neyl McClure,
Co L: Ray Hammargren,
Co M: Col (ret) Al Wiest
Bill Tucker

Folks who made the Reunion a Success!



President Bernie Wagner & Mary.



Pat Drong, Reunion Organizer, & husband, Jim Drong.



Darrel "The Driver" Harstad, who does EVERYTHING to help, is joined by LaVonne Zinck



Col. (almost retired) Chuck Wagner gets a hug from wife, JoAl. He MC'd the I64 Highway Ceremony



Eddie Otto, Master of Ceremonies for the evening banquet, and wife, Dolores.



Chaplain Tom Vagle and wife Diana



Vice-President Ray Kreidelkamp and wife Betty



The folks at the VFW, Legion, Senior Center, Caterer, & the City of Valley City

188th Army National Guard Band Enhanced Weekend Activities

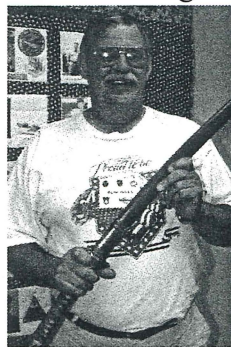


The 188th Army National Guard Band, Fargo, enhanced the weekend activities with their versatility and professionalism. Above, the men's choral group sang during the banquet. They also performed during the Business Meeting on Saturday morning. The band played polka-style music for the dance on Friday night and the jazz band did justice to Glenn Miller on Saturday night. The concert band played military march music on Saturday afternoon.

Displays of Military Equipment & Uniforms bring back Memories.



Ron Martin (left) and Jerry Schemp (right) parked their restored WWII era Jeeps in front of the VFW for all to enjoy.



Warren Ventsch (left) brought his display of Japanese swords. Greg Heinz (right) holds his historical display of 164 Regimental crests.



Not pictured: the elusive Col Al Schuldt, who has an exceptional display of Japanese flags, swords, and uniform items.

An Update on the Medal Request for "Woody"



The request for a posthumous Medal of Honor for 164's Woody Keeble is, at the time of this printing, still being considered at the Secretary of Defense level. If endorsed, it will then be sent to the President for final approval.

Senator Byron Dorgan, D-ND, entered the following text into the Congressional Record.

The March 2006 and July 2006 issues of *The 164 Infantry News* outlined Keeble's heroic deeds and the efforts to honor him with the nation's highest military award.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006

No. 77

Senate

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECOMMENDATION

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I rise today to inform my colleagues of my request to Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to strongly recommend the nomination of MSG Woodrow W. Keeble for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Last week, the Secretary of the Army made a recommendation to the Secretary of Defense that the late MSG Woodrow W. Keeble be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. I strongly encourage and request that the Secretary of Defense recommend Mr. Keeble for this award and that action be taken quickly, particularly for the sake of Mr. Keeble's widow, to recommend approval to President Bush.

Mr. Keeble was a full-blooded Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux, who fought in both World War II and the Korean war. He was born in Waubay, SD, and attended Wahpeton Indian School in North Dakota. While attending Wahpeton Indian School, Mr. Keeble excelled as a baseball pitcher. His outstanding athletic ability, for which he is remembered in the Wahpeton community, would later serve him well during his acts of bravery and courage in the Korean war.

The brave actions that make Mr. Keeble deserving of the Congressional Medal of Honor occurred during Operation Nomad of the Korean war on October 20, 1951. During the Korean war, Mr. Keeble was assigned to Company G, 19th Infantry, 24th Division of the U.S. Army. He was charged with leading the 1st platoon of Company G as master sergeant.

Mr. Keeble's actions on October 20, 1951, were reminiscent of Hollywood movies, but this was real heroism. On that date, Mr. Keeble's company was charged with the mission of taking and securing Hill 765, a steep rocky and well-defended terrain near Kumsong, Korea. As they began to reach their final objective, the lead platoon of Company G was ambushed with heavy fire from three enemy machine gun nests. The platoon's situation became grave as Mr. Keeble, acting platoon leader of a support platoon, left his position of cover and bravely made his way forward and joined the trapped platoon.

It took Mr. Keeble little time to decide that immediate action had to be taken. He courageously crawled directly into the line of fire to take out the enemy machine guns. He successfully crawled up the rocky terrain and neutralized the first two machine gun nests by hurling grenades and rendering them useless. The remaining enemy machine gun

nest brought terrific fire down upon him. Undaunted by the rain of concussion and fragmentation grenades, Mr. Keeble proceeded to disable the final enemy position. After missing the enemy with his last grenade, he launched a one-man assault with his M-1 rifle. By this time, he sustained multiple shrapnel wounds. Fearlessly, he took out the final machine gun position with his rifle. While awaiting the arrival of his fellow soldiers, he continued to singlehandedly take out two additional nearby trenches of enemy troops, and he effectively neutralized the enemy stronghold, involving a series of close combat struggles. Mr. Keeble's heroic actions led to the successful accomplishment of Company G's mission and, no doubt, saved the lives of many American troops.

Those who served with Mr. Keeble twice recommended him for the Congressional Medal of Honor, but the recommendations were lost. The first was due to the regiment's move from the Korean theater, and the second was an inability to meet mapping requirements. However, it should be noted that both instances of application only required two signatures, but in each case, all the men in Master Sergeant Keeble's company signed the Congressional Medal of Honor request. Eventually, the deadline for the Medal of Honor consideration passed, but Mr. Keeble's family was granted their request in 2002 that his file be reopened.

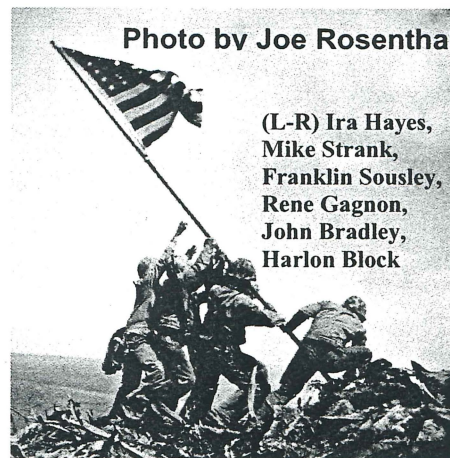
For his acts of heroism he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Silver Star, and the Distinguished Service Cross. The criteria for the Congressional Medal of Honor include deeds of personal bravery, self-sacrifice, or an action that conspicuously distinguishes the individual above his comrades. Should the President agree to this recommendation, Mr. Keeble would be the first Sioux Indian to be awarded the Nation's highest military honor if he is chosen to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. Certainly the courageous and patriotic acts exhibited by Mr. Keeble during times of war make him a long overdue and deserving recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Mr. President, I urge the Secretary of Defense to strongly recommend the nomination of MSG Woodrow W. Keeble for the Congressional Medal of Honor to the President of the United States, and I hope my colleagues will join me in saluting a truly brave and courageous American.

Read the Book or see the Movie...

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS

Photo by Joe Rosenthal



(L-R) Ira Hayes,
Mike Strank,
Franklin Sousley,
Rene Gagnon,
John Bradley,
Harlon Block

"Flags of our Fathers", the Clint Eastwood / Stephen Spielberg film which will be opening later this year, is based on the bestselling book by James Bradley with Ron Powers, and chronicles the battle of Iwo Jima and the fates of the flag raisers and some of their brothers in Easy Company. Bradley's father, John "Doc" Bradley, was one of the soldiers pictured raising the flag, although James never knew the full extent of his father's experiences until after the elder Bradley's death in 1994.

www.flagsoffourfathers.com

<http://www.iwojima.com/raising/raisingb.htm>

Didja know....Actor Glenn Ford put aside his acting career and signed up to serve 1943-45 with the Marine Corps in both the Pacific & Atlantic fronts. On leave in 1943, he married talented tap dancer/ actress Eleanor Powell.

After the war, Ford stayed in the Navy Reserve, and again put film work aside to serve two tours in Vietnam with the Third Marine Amphibious Force, '66 -'68. He is the only actor to have served with both the Green Berets and the French Foreign Legion. He achieved the rank of Captain with the USNR in 1968; retiring in 1977. Capt Ford served not on the sidelines, but on the front lines! He celebrated his 90th birthday in May 2006!

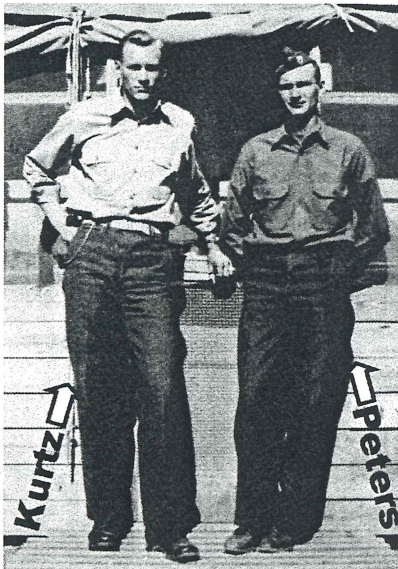
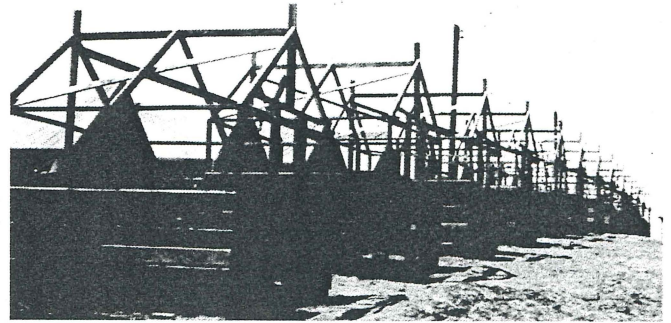
Photo(L) http://www.glennfordonline.com/View_Archives.html
Info & photos (R) <http://glennfordsite.com/biography.html>



The Day We Set the General's House On Fire!

by Cliff Kurtz, Reg Hq Co, 164 Inf

When our regiment first arrived in Camp Claibourne, La, in February of 1941, the camp was not quite completed. For one thing, the officers did not have tent frames for their tents. What was needed was a carpentry crew to build them, but the Army did not have "carpenters" on its Table of Organization. So, what to do? As it happened, my tent mate and good buddy, Walter H. "Pete" Peters, and I had built some fancy furniture for our tent and the Orderly Room, as well as for Capt Narum's quarters. Although we were radio operators, we were told to head up a carpentry detail composed of two volunteers from each company every day until we had built the necessary tent frames. We had the assistance of Lt Donald Budge on matters which we as privates could not handle. We completed about 24 of these frames (see photo above) using scrap lumber salvaged from huge piles left behind by the civilian contractors. Some of our members may remember "serving" on that detail. We had a lot of men in the unit who were good with a saw and hammer!!



Now, for the other half of the story! Pete and I were told to go to Brig. Gen. Frayne Baker's residence to see if we could spruce it up a bit. It was too plain we were told. Pete and I had been treating some of our projects with a blow torch to give them a nice appearance. We decided to do the same with the wainscoting around every room in the General's house. (Do you smell smoke?)

We had finished the first two rooms, and they looked very nice. As we were finishing the last room, we both aimed the flame of the torch into a corner, and suddenly the wall burst into flame!!!! YIKES!!! Pete screamed "Get the HOSE!!!" I ran outside and got the hose that was attached to a faucet beside the house. I ran into the house, getting a lot of things wet with the water spouting out of the hose. Pete wildly splashed water all over the corner of the room. THE FIRE WAS OUT!! Water was everywhere, so he stuck the hose out the window to reduce the mess. We stood and looked at each other...NOW WHAT? Should we tell Lt Budge? What would he say? (WHAAAAT..YOU SET THE GENERAL'S HOUSE ON FIRE????) No, we decided not to tell him...just yet. But what would we tell the General? We began making up a plausible story, but then decided that Generals were smarter than privates (well, they are, aren't they?) and he would see through our lies. We decided honesty would be the best policy.

We did not have to wait long before we could hear a car approaching, its wheels making that ominous crunching sound on the gravel driveway. Soon it stopped in front of the house. A door opened and slammed shut. Then another. It was the General and his driver. We heard the General's footsteps coming up the front steps, and then all too soon, he stood in the open doorway. His clean and neatly pressed uniform with its silver stars shone in the afternoon sun. We had never seen a General, much less met one face to face!! To two privates in dirty dungarees, he seemed like something out of this world! We saluted. He returned it and said, "At ease, men." ARE YOU KIDDING?? How could we be at ease under the circumstances? He looked around at what we had done and said, "Good work, men", and said the same thing in the second room. He went into the third room and Pete hurriedly stumbled in after him, with me "backing him up" all the way! Pete explained that the high resin content in the southern pine was very flammable (true) and had caught us by surprise, but we would "fix" the damage. I could see a slight flicker of a smile cross the General's lips, then he said, "Carry on, men", and walked into another room and closed the door. HOORAY and HALLELUJAH! We were off the hook...we were FREE (to finish our enlistment, that is). No firing squad, and no guardhouse.



Sixty-five years have gone by, but it seems like yesterday! Cliff Kurtz, 6727 N Pershing Ave, Stockton, CA 95207

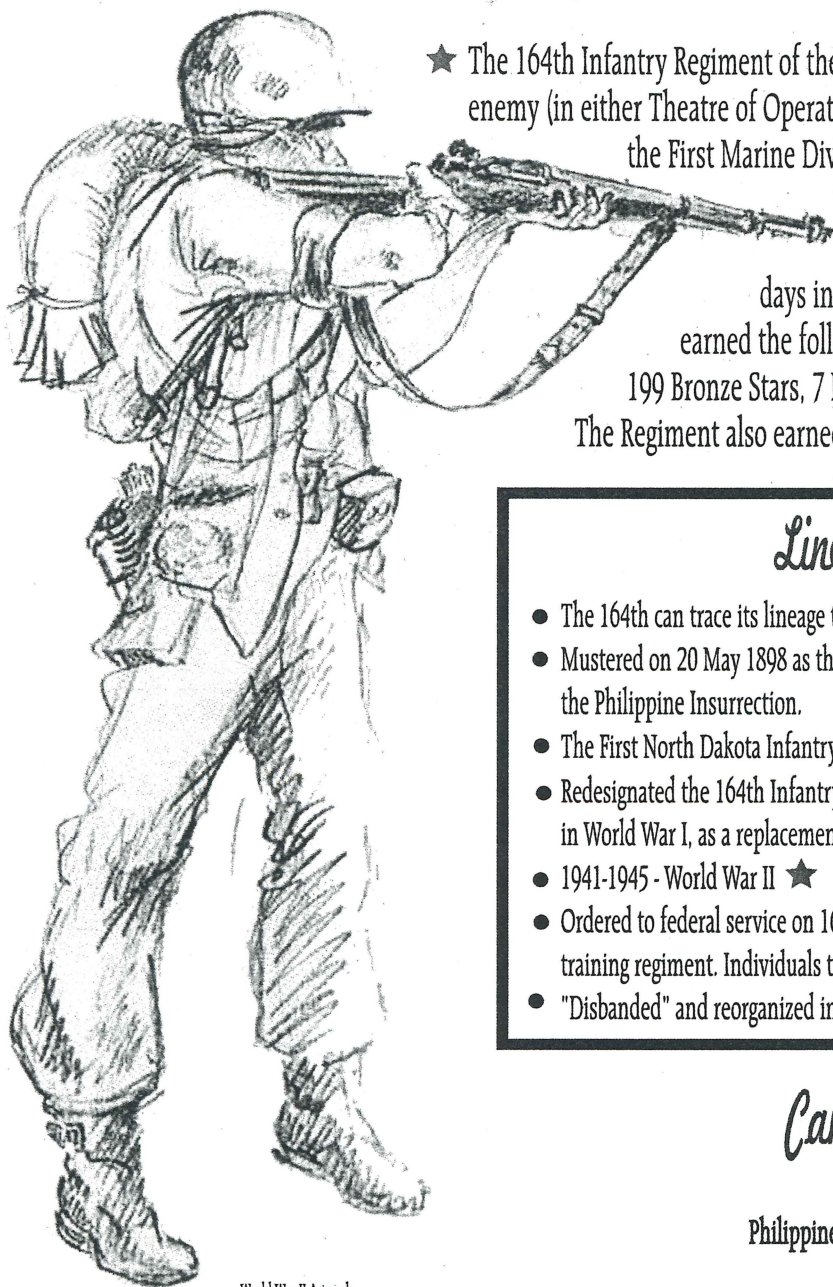
US Highway 2 within ND is



The 164th Infantry

Authorized by the North Dakota 48th Legislative Assembly to honor the n

The 164th Infantry Regiment, North D



World War II Artwork
by Doug Burtell, 164 Infantry

★ The 164th Infantry Regiment of the Americal Division was the first US Army unit to take offensive action against the enemy (in either Theatre of Operation) during World War II on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, where it was the first to land on the island of Guadalcanal on 13 October 1942. Men of the 164th Infantry Regiment were awarded the US Navy Presidential Unit Citation for their part in the battle of Guadalcanal on 23-26 October 1942. The 164th Infantry Regiment fought 110 days in combat and suffered 325 killed in action, and 1193 wounded. It earned the following decorations: 1 Navy Cross, 6 Distinguished Service Crosses, 199 Bronze Stars, 7 Legions of Merit, 10 Soldier's Medals, and approximately 2000 Purple Hearts. The Regiment also earned the Republic of the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation.

Lineage and History of the 164th

- The 164th can trace its lineage to 1885 when the Regiment was organized as the First Dakota Infantry.
- Mustered on 20 May 1898 as the First North Dakota Volunteer Infantry for the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection.
- The First North Dakota Infantry Regiment was called into federal service on 18 June 1916 for service on the Mexican Border.
- Redesignated the 164th Infantry Regiment on 4 October 1917, it was assigned to the 41st Division for service in World War I, as a replacement Division in the European Theatre of Operations.
- 1941-1945 - World War II ★
- Ordered to federal service on 16 January 1951 for service for the Korean War, and was assigned to Ft. Rucker, Alabama, as a training regiment. Individuals transferred to other units for service in Korean Theatre of Operations.
- "Disbanded" and reorganized into Engineer Units in 1955.

Campaign Participation Credits

War with Spain - Manila

Philippine Insurrection - Manila, Laguna de Bay, San Isidro

World War I

World War II - Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons, Leyte, Southern Philippines

Country Memorial Highway

Members of North Dakota Army National Guard

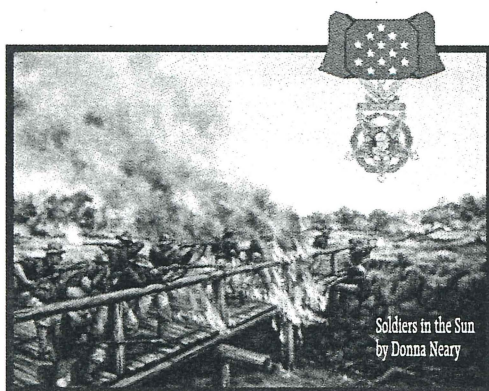
tion against the
they reinforced
ere awarded the
f Henderson
pent nearly 600
gimental soldiers
, 89 Silver Stars,
ple Hearts.

exican Border.

L, as a



JE SUIS PRET means "I Am Ready" The distinctive unit insignia was originally approved for the 164th Infantry Regiment on 11 January 1933. The blue shield is for Infantry, with the Spanish castle taken from the Campaign Medal representing service in the Spanish-American War. The Philippine Insurrection service is indicated by the three mullets (stars) from the Philippine Island flag. The sun in the base, from the 41st Division shoulder sleeve insignia, denotes World War I service with that Division.

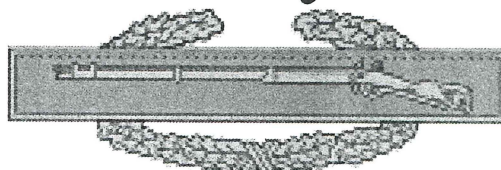
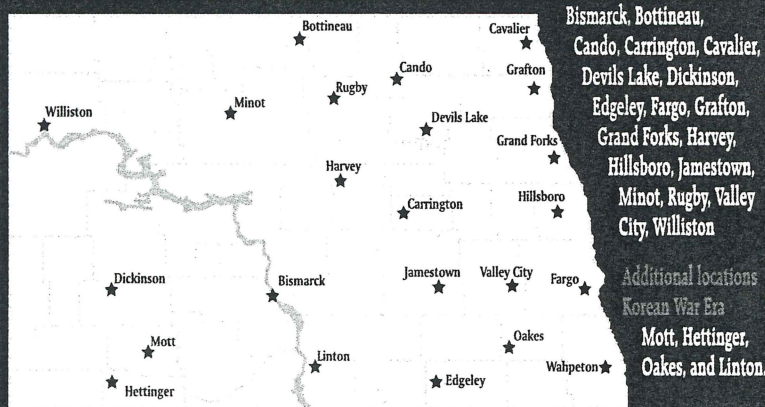


In the spring of 1899, the 1st North Dakota Infantry was part of an expedition to clean out Insurgent strongholds north of Manila. When a civilian named Henry Young organized an elite scouting and reconnaissance force, 16 North Dakotans were selected for this detail. One historian wrote that "Young's Scouts" were always in front of the main column, the scouts bore the brunt of the advance, reconnoitering and maintaining contact with the enemy.

The Scouts discovered that the Insurgents had set an important bridge on fire. Knowing the river below was unfordable, the 22 Scouts rushed the bridge and put out the flames, despite direct fire from some 600 Insurgents.

Fourteen Guardsmen were awarded the Medal of Honor. Of that 14, ten were members of Young's Scouts, decorated for their actions on 13 and 16 May 1899. Seven men were from the First North Dakota Infantry.

Locations of the 164th Infantry Regiment Units, WWII



Combat Infantry Badge
The most coveted award an infantryman can receive.



41st Infantry Division (The Sunbelt Division)
The 41st was assigned the 41st Division for service during World War I. The 41st deployed to the European Theater of Operations and served as a replacement division, where individuals were transferred to other units for combat.



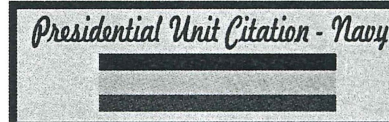
96th Infantry Division (The Red Bull Division)
From World War II, the 96th was one of four infantry regiments assigned to the Seventh Service Command, 96th Infantry Division. Members of the regiment won this shoulder patch until 8 December 1941, when divisions were reorganized with only three regiments instead of four.



American Cavalry (Green Shields)
The four white stars on the blue Korean shield are symbolic of the Southern Cross constellation under which the organization served. "Stars" was derived from the American troops forming the Division and "Gal" from New Galois where it was organized in 1942. It was the only uncombined Division in World War II. It was later re-designated the 29th Division for post-Korean war service and service in the Vietnam War.



Marine 1st Division
The Marine 1st Division shoulder patch was authorized for wear by members of units that were engaged or attached to the Division (including the 194th) in its four landings in the Pacific War.



47th Infantry Division (The Viking Division)
In 1946, the 47th "Viking" Infantry Division was officially organized in MN, ND, and WI. The 47th was called the "Viking Division" in honor of the ethnic heritage shared by so many people of these states. By late January 1951, "47th Viking" found themselves in Germany, where they were assigned to train new divisions. Shortly thereafter, it was named as a replacement division and gradually built up. Its men were reassigned individually or by unit to other army commands. Many went to Korea.



North Dakota Cavalry (Green Shields)
The shield is blue for Infantry. The three arrows and bow are from the Great Seal of the State of North Dakota and allude to the three Indian tribes that named the territory of North Dakota and depicted widely varying and great bowmen. Red represents Infantry, and red and white represent Engineers, and the yellow represents Quartermaster and Cavalry which were once major units of the ND National Guard. This blue and yellow wreath reflects the history of the territory as part of the Louisiana Purchase.

Can YOU provide some info on PFC Parenteau, Co B??

Attention: WW II Americal Division and
75th Inf. Division Veterans
Re: Recovering body of missing soldier

PFC Eugene Joseph Parenteau, 31261697
Co. B, 1st Bn., 164th Infantry, Americal Division
Killed in Action, June 7, 1945
Negros Island, Philippines
Body not recovered



Dear Sirs,

I am an ex-Marine and I have been involved in a project researching all of the veterans from my home town of Leicester, MA. who died during time of war. One of these men is PFC Eugene Parenteau. He was drafted on March 24, 1943 and originally trained with the 75th Inf. Div. Sometime in the late summer-early fall of 1944 he was transferred to a Replacement Depot in the Pacific and assigned to the 164th Inf., Americal Division. He fought at Bougainville and was involved in a battle there in October 1944. He was with a PFC Orlando Giallonardo (deceased) of Medway, MA. during this fight and may have been awarded the Bronze Star for this action. I have spoken with Gene's older sister Lillian and she mentioned that a member of Gene's unit (this may have been Orlando Giallonardo) visited the Parenteau family after the war and told them that Gene was killed and fell over a cliff into a steep ravine. Due to Japanese in the area his body was not recovered. This action took place in the mountains southwest of Dumaguete, Negros Island at around the 4000 foot level not far from the village of Ticala. This area was heavily forested, had many ridges and a few streams. I have spoken with the military's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) in Hawaii and they need more information to be able to conduct a search for his remains. If any one remembers Gene or was involved in the action that resulted in his loss, please contact me at the above address or numbers. Any help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

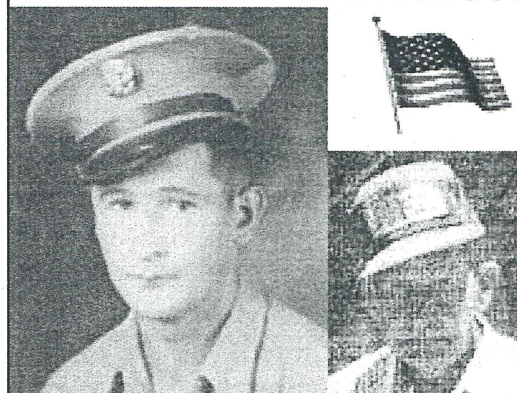
Sincerely,
Patrick McKeon

Patrick McKeon 508-248-2942
44 Stafford St. # 8 508-769-6692 (cell)
Charlton, MA. 01507 paddyocv580@cs.com

MEMBERS & FRIENDS FOUND ON THE AMERICAL WEBSITE

Editor's note: While searching the Americal Division Assoc website (www.americal.org), I located people seeking info about 164 members. The March & July 2006 issues contained notes & photos from these new members and friends. The next pages feature a few more!

REMEMBERING BILL ARWOOD



I'm looking for anyone who served with my Dad, **Bill Arwood**, 34-729-273, Private First Class (PFC), **Company E**, 164th Infantry. He served 26 months overseas from 1943-45 in the **Southern Philippine Liberation** (General Order #67, War Department, 1945), and **Northern Solomons** (G.O. #33, War Dept, 1945), and is authorized to wear the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 3 bronze stars. He passed away 11 March 2003. **Jeanette Arwood Street**, 110 Doe Ln, Roan Mountain, TN 37687 email: rjs700@msn.com

NEW MEMBERS SEEK OLD BUDDIES

FROM President Bernie:

I just visited with **Fred Klein**, 141 Pine Knoll Dr, Fair Play, South Carolina 29643-2829. He was in **Co "C"** 164 and joined the Unit on **Cebu**. He would like to have this notice published and if anyone in the organization has any info on the **Co "C"** guys he would like to hear from them.

Harry George Ballo was in **Co "E"** and joined the Unit on **New Caledonia** and served until discharged. He also would like to be listed and seek info from anyone that was in **E Company** during that time. His address is 2729 Charles Bryan, Bartlett, Tenn 38134. *Editor—Mr Ballo, please see the Co E Arwood notice at right.*

**YOU can help
save mailing expenses
SEND IN YOUR
2007 DUES
RIGHT NOW!**

**Then we won't have to
mail you a reminder.**

NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

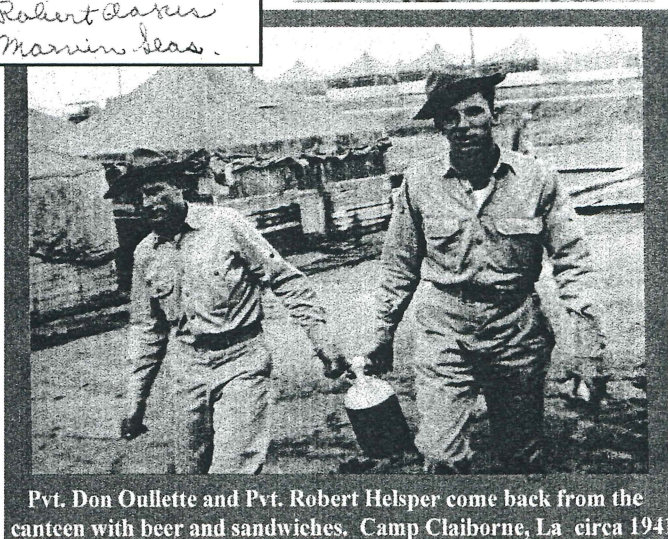
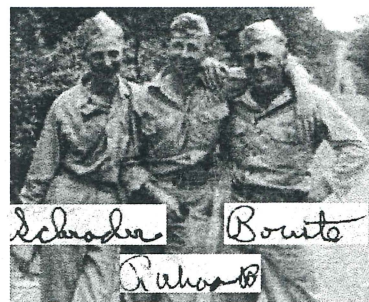
REMEMBERING ROBERT EDWARD HELSPER



Date Posted: 08-Feb-1999 Looking For: Anyone in 164th Infantry Americal Division
I am doing some research on my Dad's service life, and because he has since passed away, I have very little to go on. I do know that his unit (164th Infantry, **Company K**) originated out of North Dakota. I have all his pictures and memorabilia, and would like to put it into a scrapbook for future generations. I don't want this part of our family history to become forgotten. If anyone can help me out with information, please feel free to contact me. I want this to be as complete as possible. My Dad's name was **Robert E. Helsper**, and he was a staff sergeant, 1941-1946, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Southern Pacific. Thank you for any help or information you can give. Contact: **Joan Jurgens**, PO Box 3, Medora, ND 58645 Email: jjurgens@pop.ctctel.com.

Pictures of Buddies & pals...

My squad on Bougainville
Front three Right to left:
Lt. Darward Amis
Sgt. George Weisgerber
Pfc Frank Petilli
Back right to left:
Julius Price
William Midgett
Foley Johnson
Howard Richmond
Robert Clares
Marvin Seas.



People met along the way....



*Capt. Florio
Philippine Army
Cebu City, Cebu*

*Murphy on
Balab Island
Philippine Isl.
1945*

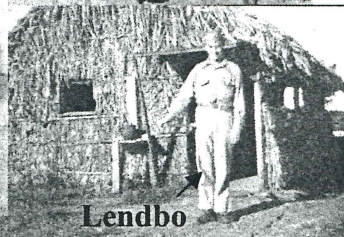


"Here is a picture of the kid that brings our daily newspaper. He was tired & went to sleep beside the mess hall. He is a Jew and we call him Hitler & he gets fighting mad."

And places loosely called "home"...

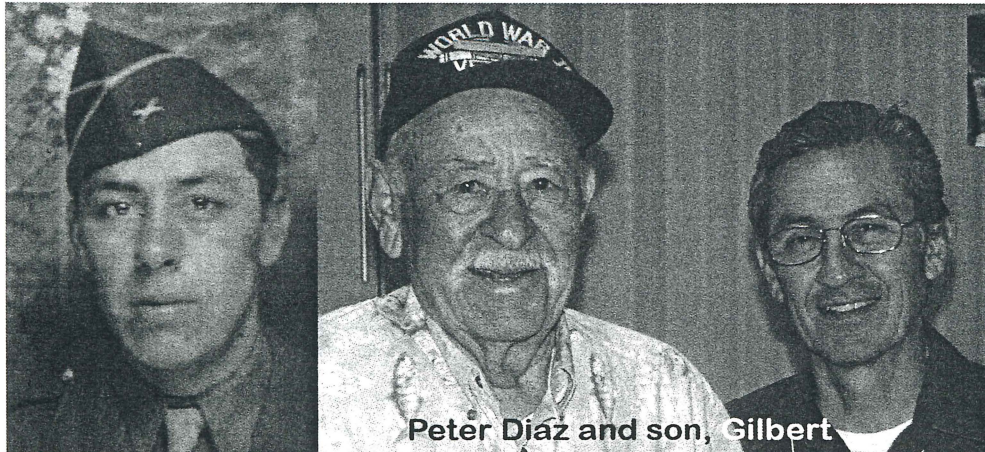


← "Blackie" & Pete Martella



NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

PETER DIAZ, SERVICE COMPANY, ATTENDS 2006 REUNION!



Peter Diaz and son, Gilbert



Peter Diaz was the newest member of the 164 Assoc. when he arrived in North Dakota to see if he could find some of his old Army

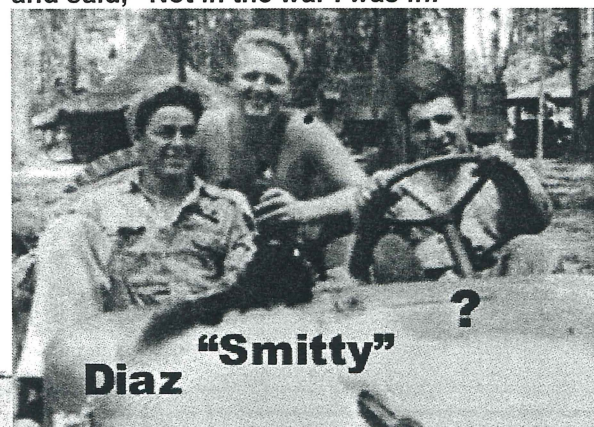
pals! His daughter in law, Christine (inset) had posted a notice on the web and when "Pete" found out there was a reunion, he just had to come! His son, Gilbert, came along with him. Diaz will tell you he's really from California, where he was a tile installation specialist, but he recently moved into his own wing of Gilbert & Christine's house

in Cumming, Georgia. When I looked at his service record (left) I figured I'd get a feisty response when I asked if it was unusual for a truck driver to earn a Combat Infantry Badge. He sat up and looked me straight in the eye, and said, "Not in the war I was in!"

MILITARY HISTORY			
16 Nov 43		23 Nov 43	
Ft MacArthur Calif			
SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA	25. REGISTERED	27. LOCAL S. BOARD NO.	28. COUNTY AND STATE
	X	160	San Diego Calif
30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO.		31. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE	
Tractor Driver 931		See 2	
32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS		33. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND RATE (I.e., Infantry, aviation and marksmanship badges, etc.)	
Northern Solomons Sou Philippines		Combat Infantryman Badge	
34. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS			
Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal Philippine Liberation Ribbon with 1 Bronze Star Good Conduct Medal Victory Ribbon			
35. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION			
None			
36. LATENT IMMUNIZATION DATES		37. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U.S. AND RETURN	
36A. TYPHOID	36B. TETANUS	37A. DATE OF DEPARTURE	37B. DATE OF ARRIVAL
43 Jul 44	Mar 43	21 Oct 43	5 Nov 43
38. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE		39. DESTINATION	
CONTINENTAL SERVICE		Pacific Theater	
YEARS MONTHS DAYS	FOREIGN SERVICE	11 Nov 43 United States 22 Nov 45	
0 7 8	2 1 1		
39. HIGHEST GRADE		Tec 5	

TRACTOR DRIVER:

Was assigned to an infantry served company overseas for 25 months as truck driver and bulldozer operator. As truck driver, hauled personnel, supplies and equipment necessary to keep unit in proper operation. As bulldozer operator leveled landscape, built roads and aid general maintenance work. Served in the Solomons and Philippines. Primary mission of his company was to supply the 164th American Infantry Regiment.



"Smitty"

Diaz



Diaz thinks this landing was in the Negros, which is part of the Visayan Islands and would fit in the 16 Mar to 20 Apr '45 timeframe for LCI #963 (chart at right). He says a lieutenant tracked down the US Army Signal Corps photo and gave it to him.

Class Landing Craft Infantry (Large) #963

Launched, 20 March 1944
Commissioned USS LCI(L)-963, 16 May 1944

Leyte operation;

- (a) Leyte landings, 16 Oct to 29 Nov 44
- (b) Ormoc Bay landing, 7-8 Dec 44

Luzon operation;

- (a) Mindoro landings, 12-18 Dec 44
- Consolidation of the Southern Philippines;**
- (a) Palawan Island landing, 28 Feb 45
- (b) Visayan Island landings, 26 Mar to 20 Apr 45

Manila Bay-Bicol operations;

- (a) Nasugbu-31 Jan 45 and 4-5 Feb 45
- Decommissioned 1946. Renamed **Mallard** 1949

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/150963.htm>



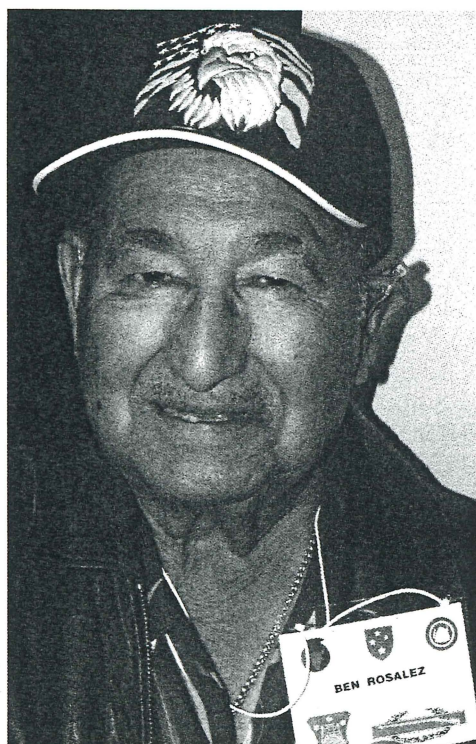
Diaz



Diaz (bottom left) & his buddies might wish those bottles were real as they blow off steam during outprocessing. Can anyone identify the other guys?

NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

BEN J. ROSALEZ, CO C, ATTENDS 2006 REUNION!



Ben Rosalez remembers what happened the day he reported to the 164 like it was yesterday. He had just arrived in the unit area and was introduced to a sergeant who had just gotten orders to rotate back to the states the next day. As the sergeant was preparing for the ride out, incoming artillery rounds exploded in the trees and the flying debris killed him instantly. Only one day away from home....



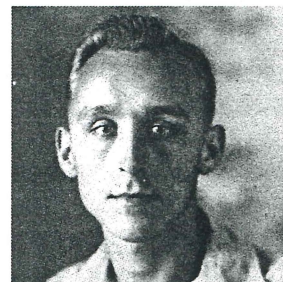
The photo (left) was taken as this small group of replacements reported for duty in the Philippines in December 1943.

Back, L-R: Izirido Ramirez, (truck driver in the Americal)

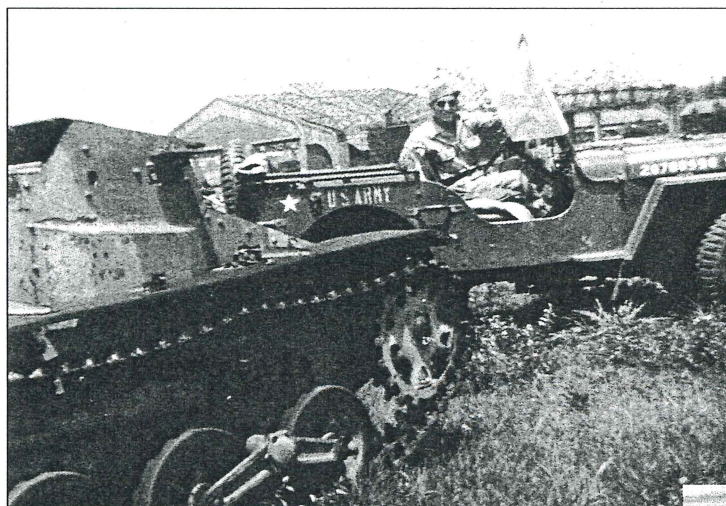
Rory Rodriguez, Co H,
Danny Ramirez, Co H, (Izirido's brother)

Front: Ben Rosalez, Co C,
?? Nova, 3rd Bn

Below: Boris Pirok, Co C



*To my very good friend
Danny with his sister
Always,
Boris Pirok.*



Part of the job after "taking the ground" was to destroy any enemy equipment. At left, Rosalez takes a look at a Japanese tank. Larger equipment was burned or blown up. Swords, guns, & moveable items were often dumped in the ocean.

Below: Rosalez (center) pauses in a Japanese market to allow the kids a closer look. He says he caused quite a stir as they wondered how *he* could be in the *American* Army when his skin was darker than theirs!

Ben asks that we remember some 164 buddies in

The Last Roll Call:
Manuel Lopez, Co H
Pittsburg, CA 1985

Ben Rosales, Co C
Gilbert, AZ 1965

PFC Tiadoro "Tojo"
Rodriguez, Co H

Captured & tortured
to death in Los
Negros, 1944



Above, Rosalez poses in Japanese work-man's togs: large sun hat, basket & broom on his back, and a mean looking angled fork.



DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

12 Jun 06 Hello Ben & Shirley: Inclosed find \$15 for the reunion tickets. Balance (\$50) is for that award winning News Letter! As of now, I'm not sure I can make the reunion this year. My driver will be in Germany, of all places, and I'm getting too old to drive that distance myself. If I can get a driver, I'll be there for sure. I really appreciate all the hard work you people put in to put the reunion together, and also the News Letter. Thank you so Much. **Les Wichman**, 2813 Nash Rd, Mpls, MN 55430

Enclosed is \$50 for life membership. Enjoyed the news letter about "**Woody**". I served with him in Korea, although I was in the 21st Reg't as 1st Sgt & Plt Ldr. **Arnie L. Gilbertson**, PO Box 298, Hillsboro, ND 58045-0298
Note from Ben: Arnie is a friend of mine. He was the AST (Admin Supply Technician, a full timer) in the Hillsboro unit. He later joined the Air Guard and got his 20 years in.

1 Jul 06 Bernie & Reunion Committee: I want to thank you and the Reunion Committee for your effort to keep the Association functioning. Also, I appreciate the effort that Lt. Col. Shirley J. Olgeirson and others have expended to produce the excellent 164th Infantry News. I am enclosing a check for \$20 for the tickets you mailed to me. I am also enclosing a check for one hundred dollars to pay for membership for the following [AWOL] members, so that they may continue to receive the 164th Infantry News: **Arnie Gilbertson, Wallace (Butch) Gjesvold, Edwin J. Kjelstrom, Donovan Oster, Arvid Thompson, John H. Tuff, Henry M. Wiik**. The remaining funds should be used for those persons who may not have sent in funds to renew their dues. I may not be available to attend the reunion. I will make an effort to submit some articles about my plane trip back to the mainland from Bougainville to the Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, where I remained for seven months. I was discharged from the hospital back to duty as a member of a tour group called "Here's Your Infantry" to help sell War Bonds. Have a Wonderful Reunion! Sincerely, SSgt **Dennis R Ferk (LM)**, 111 Sol-Lomas Dr, Sante Fe, NM 87505-5748
Note from Sec/Treas Ben: Arnie Gilbertson had just renewed for life, and Edwin Kjelstrom had sent in his dues, so in addition to the guys mentioned above, we took a few more names off the AWOL list with the remainder of your donation. Editor: Dennis was one of the guys on the 50th Anniversary of WWII trip to Guadalcanal in 1992. Wow, Dennis, what a nice thing to do for your comrades and friends! Thanks for your support! Sorry you couldn't attend the reunion.

Jul 06: Please accept late membership fees for last year, and I am including another year. Sorry we have been AWOL—we didn't notice until this issue. **Nona Miller**, for **Paul Fischer**, 4651 107th Ave S, Dickinson, ND 58601

Dear Shirley. Enclosed are three photographs taken in Camp Claiborne, La, in 1941. Also, a story our members might find interesting. After the war, "Pete" (**Walter H. Peters**) mentioned in the story and I both attended Wahpeton State School of Science. He studied aircraft mechanics and took a radio maintenance course. We shared an apartment and remained good friends. I believe he died some years ago, but I am not sure of this. I would appreciate having the photos returned in the envelope provided. Sincerely, **Cliff Kurtz** (Regimental Headqtrs Company), 6727 N Pershing Ave, Stockton, CA 95207
Editor: Mr. Kurtz's 3 photos and humorous story are on page 11 of issue.

10 Aug I'll mail you my Dad's photos. I don't have any papers or stories—the war was just not something Dad talked about. **Joan Jurgens**, PO Box 3, Medora, ND 58645
11 Aug Editor (by email): Joan Thanks for all the photos, which are back in the mail. Here's your dad's draft Memory Page. Does it look ok to you? [Helsper, Page 15]
Oh Shirley! It looks wonderful! Thank you so much. I've got tears in my eyes. The only thing I would ask that you change is my email address if you could. Since I posted on the Americal website, my email address has changed to jjurgens@pop.ctctel.com. Just in case someone would like to contact me. I will send my \$10 so I can get the newsletter. I would also be interested in purchasing two additional copies for my brothers if you would have extras. Please let me know where to send the money and who to make the check out to. I am so grateful for what you have done. I am almost speechless. Hugs, Joan.

Aug 06 Dear Ben: George received his membership card for 2006 from you this week [paid by a donation from Dennis Ferk] and was most embarrassed to learn he had forgotten to pay his dues. I am writing this letter for him because he has developed macular degeneration in both eyes and does not see well enough to write. He asked me to write a check to pay his dues, plus add enough for you to pay the dues for the next guy that has forgotten and needs a gentle reminder. He also asked me to write to Good Samaritan **Dennis Ferk** and thank him, too. I know George wishes he could make the trip back to North Dakota for the reunion. I wish we could, too, because my high school class in Wisconsin is having its 65th reunion the week before the 164 reunion and we will miss both. Someone told me old age is not for sissies and I believe they knew what they were talking about. It is hard to travel any distance these days. Anyway, please greet anyone who may remember George and know that he sends his very, very best wishes to all. Sincerely, **Beverly Isenberg**, for **George Isenberg**, 4012 S. Rainbow Ste K-265, Las Vegas, NV 89103-2010. *Editor: Thanks for helping with dues! No more AWOL list! But, 2007 dues are coming up.....!!*

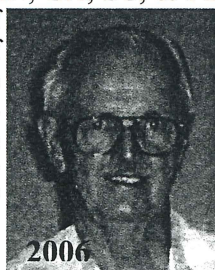
DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Dear Ben. Thank you so much for your prompt response to my life membership application to the 164th Infantry Assoc and for copies of the last three newsletters. I have read them all cover-to-cover and renewed many old as well as continuing memories of my days in the NDARNG beginning with my joining **Co G**, 164th Infantry Reg't in Mar 53, while high school senior at Eckelson, ND. Co G was still in the process of returning from Korea -- the only unit member present was then-1LT **John Benzinger**. My first summer training in 1953 at Camp Grafton was with all the Korean vets. 1LT "**Buzz**" **Ratzlaff** was my C.O. That was an event to remember! In Mar 54, I resigned from the Guard to volunteer for duty in the active Army (I learned afterward that it would have been more advantageous to volunteer through the Guard) to earn entitlement to the G.I Bill so that I could finance my college education. After returning from 2 years of active service as a tank commander with the First Armored Division, I again entered Valley City State (then-college) in Mar 56, and again joined the local Guard unit what was by then Hqtrs



2LT 1958

Co, 141st Engr Bn. In the summer of 1956, I was accepted for enrollment in the first class of the NDARNG OCS and graduated in Jun 58, and accepted my commission as 2LT. Our summer OCS training in 1957 was eventually extended by tornado aftermath duty in Fargo where I was hit by a power company truck while driving a jeep through an intersection. I still made it to the summer school session at VCSC, but three weeks late and with my head still bandaged. My first assignment with Hqtrs Co, 141st was as commo officer under the command of LTC **Bernie Lyons**. I moved to Mandan in 1962 and eventually served as commander of the Mandan unit. My last assignment in the NDARNG was as the PIO for Hqtrs Detachment at Fraire Barracks. In 1968, I transferred to the Army Reserve in Fargo which was then my residence. My USAR assignments were in ND, VA, MN, GA, SC, & FL, finishing in Mar 89, with 36 years of service. Although I have lived out of ND for more than 30 years, I have maintained many of my close and life-long friend-ships with members of the NDARNG. I look forward to my continued membership with the 164th Infantry Assoc and to receiving your most informative and well presented newsletter. Hopefully, my schedule will permit me to attend one of your upcoming conferences in the future. Best wishes to all members of the 164, past and present. Respectfully, **James D. Kieley**, COL, AUS, Ret, 1833 Stone Mountain Road, Laurel Fork, VA 24352-3651



2006

YOU can help save mailing expenses
**SEND IN YOUR 2007 DUES
RIGHT NOW!**

Then we won't have to mail you a reminder.

Shirley. Enclosed is an old roster of 164th **B Company** and a ship roster that I used to check the men coming on board. I still keep in touch with Mr. **Mitchell E. Pillarick** and a few others. Say "Hi" to Bernie & Ben for me. **I would like to hear from any 164th B Co members** if you know of any. Have a nice reunion, **Nicholas Ostapchuk**, 1st Sergeant, 582 Ramona St, Rochester, NY 14615-3232

Editor: I found the names of five current Association members on the Rosters! They are **Paul Dickerson**, 1630 East Maple NW, North Canton, OH 44720; **Elmer F Eilers** (LM), 1200 Highway Ave, Apt 310, Covington, KY 41011, **Joe E Gleason**, 1037 1275th Ave, Lincoln, IL 62656; **Mitchell E Pillarick** (LM) 1335 Verlene Dr, Florissant, MO 63031; **Kenneth L Sandhop** (LM), 912 Meadow Ridge Dr, Wenatchee, WA 98801. Also, assoc member **Kay (Robert) Hannum** (LM*), Rockie Mt Manor, Powell, WY 82435 **Sorry, guys, but Company A wins the Current-Members-on-old-rosters contest! See below!**

Dear Lt Col Shirley O: Seems I read in the newsletter that you welcomed old Rosters. Paul, clerk-typist for **Co A**, brought home a copy of one in his barracks bag, so I made a copy of it for you. I hope it is helpful. Best Regards, **Mary M. Dickerson**.

Here is what Paul wrote about it: This roster was made in the summer of 1945 after we got back from Los Negros. The company was being built up to (almost) full strength after so many men were killed and wounded on Negros. All the privates listed were replacements. The Company was being filled up and trained in preparation for the invasion of Japan (planned for Nov '45). All of the original **Co A** fellas from NoDak had been sent home on points, with the exception of **Harold "Nose" Caya**, who was still on the roster but was actually in the USA on temporary duty assignment. There must have been a shortage of officers as we got a Master Sgt who was "Regular Army" and had never been in the Infantry! Before coming to the company, he was a dietitian in an Army Hospital in New Orleans. The funny part was, he ended up being 1st Sgt. Best wishes for a very successful reunion! As ever, **Paul E. Dickerson** 1630 East Maple NW, North Canton, OH 44720

Editor: I found the names of ten current Association members on the Rosters! They are **Byron Burdette** (LM), 4034 Cureton Rd, Cosby, TN 37722; **Buriel Watkins**, 300 W Hawthorne St, Aurora, MO 65605; **Joseph Castagneto** (LM), 525 Howard Cir, Lincoln, AL 35096; **Carl E Doversberger** (LM), 18435 NE Glisan St, Apt 6, Portland, OR 97230; **Merwin Bokelmann** (LM), 3917 W Campo Bello Dr, Glendale, AZ 85308; **Charles Bristow**, 630 Bristow Rd, Crossville, TN 38571; **William H Dailey**, 1522 E Vinyard Rd, Hayesville, NC 28904; **Arthur W Hanley** (LM), 19453 E Hickox Rd, Mount Vernon, WA 98274; **Walter A. Hickey** (LM) POBox 373, Hilliard, FL 32046; **Clinton J. Meche** (LM) 125 Ola St Apt D-3, Carencro, LA 70520; And Assoc **Lorraine (Robert) Radune** (LM*), 308 Oak St, McArthur, OH 45651.

DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Dear Editor Olgeirson & Ben: I wish to inform you that my brother **W.K. (Kenny) Bjornstad, 84**, answered the last roll call. (See obits, page 22). I must say that you are doing a great job on the News letter and I thoroughly enjoy it. Due to other commitments, I will not be attending the reunion, but I am enclosing a check (\$100) to support the news letter. I will be 90 in October and believe I may be the only survivor of the original twenty-five men of Hdqtrs Det, 2nd Bn, 164th. Have a great reunion! **Harold Bjornstad, 31707 Oakville Rd, Shedd, OR 97377-9784**

Hi Bernie. Just a note with \$10 for the newsletter and \$15 for the tickets. If I'm lucky enough to win this, I will come and get you and we will go on a big spree. (Haha) Hope you have a big turnout and I wish I could be there with you. **George Hopkins, 513 6th Ave SE, Jamestown, ND**

Use the \$10 for your newsletter. Hope the reunion goes well. **Dolores Hoff, 923 Bradley Ave, Eau Claire, WI**

\$15 for tickets, \$10 for newsletter/postage. Thank you for your service to your Country and your Comrades. **Gerald Maurseth, Box 743, Cando, ND 58324**

Sep 06. Enclosed is money for the tickets. Sorry I won't be able to attend the reunion. **Wally Starkenberg, 2000 Snowden Ave, Long Beach, CA 90815-3343**

164—I'm unable to attend because of prior commitment. Hope tickets reach you in time. Would like to be there. Am sending a check for tickets (\$15) and \$5 for Ass'n. Sincerely, **Mrs Donald (Leatrice) Wirtz, PO Box 304, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0304**

Jul 06 Check for \$25 for tickets and whatever. See you in September! **Elroy O Greuel, 1327 3rd St E, Unit C, West Fargo, ND 58078-4298**

Dear Bernie & Staff: I served in the 164 as a radio operator in Hqs Co, starting in **Bougainville**. I am 90 years old in Sept. I keep young by keeping busy. I am the master of ceremonies (Mr. FunSunday) for a professional show of 12 dancers and singers. Love getting the *News*. Seemed like old times (great). A few of my buddies are still around. Don & Bob Hoff passed away a while ago, and I keep in touch with their wives in ND, plus others. Enclosed is a check for \$20—10 for dues, \$10 for *News*. Glad the 164 is active. I'll be in touch again and will send some pictures of some of the great guys I knew. **Janus Acampora, 24 Inverell Dr, Toms River, NJ 08757-5944**

30 Jun 06 Reunion committee & Ben & Shirley: Enclosed find membership fees of \$10, tickets (2 bks) \$15, and \$20 for newsletter. Will not attend reunion—90% of my old Army buddies are gone—except for **Chuck Walker, Doug Burtell, Gordy St. Claire**. Sincerely, **Ray Sinkbeil (Hqs, 2nd Bn), 815 Walnut St, Medicine Lodge, KS 67104-1020**

Jul 06 Dear Friends—Enclosed is a check for 6 raffle tickets. Wish we could be with you for the reunion but at 90, it is getting a bit too much to travel distances. In cleaning out closets, I have come across photographs and memories of Bougainville and will be sending them to you. Sincerely, **Emil I Blomstrann, 32 Foxon Pl, New Britain, CT 06053-2532** Editor—Great! Send the photos to PO Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502-1111. Thanks.

Hi Guys! Terrific Editor and Contributors = Great *News*. Hope I can come. Have fun. **Evelyn H. Hill, 912 Sunset Dr, Grand Forks, ND 58501**

Dear Sirs: I enjoy the 164th Newsletter very much. You are doing a nice job. Thank you. \$15 for tickets and \$10 toward Newsletter. **Charlotte Engstrom, 1814 7th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560-4154**

Dear Sgt Griffin: A note of new address. How are the troops in Valley City? Long time, no hear from anyone. Hope all are up and running. All is OK here—Have moved across town to a retirement home—just getting older. Do you publish a newsletter anymore? **Bob McMillan, 4243 Thousand Oaks Dr, Apt 231, San Antonio, TX 78217-1875**. Editor—Yes, here's a newsletter! If you'd like to receive the next 3 issues, annual membership is \$10, or life membership \$50 to PO Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502.

Irene and I hope to attend this year. \$10 for newsletter. **Don Jensen, 3728 Kingston Dr, Bismarck, ND 58503**

Hi Bernie. We got all the info on the reunion. Sounds like you folks have a great time planned. I'm sorry our dear



friend **Earl "Pinky" Johnson** will not be able to make it, but he will be there in spirit. He's residing at the Spokane Veterans Home. He is doing well but is not able to travel like he used to. He will really miss seeing all of you. Maybe you will enjoy seeing these photos of him. Hope you have a wonderful time and God bless you all. Thanks, Doris Cobb (on behalf of Pinky Johnson). 710 Fir, Coulee Dam, WA 99166

Comrades: My name is **Robert F. Love**. I served with the 164th in WWII, **Co D** heavy weapons, in **Leyte, Cebu, and Negros**. Born in Thief River Falls, MN, now live in Fla. Would like to hear from friends, also anyone from **Co B**, which our machine gun section was assigned to support. Enclosed check for tickets & newsletter. **Robert F. Love (LM), 4192 Courts Ct, Spring Hill, FL 34609**

NEW MEMBERS!!

Peter Diaz, 4150 Creekwood Dr, Cumming, GA 30041, WWII, **Service Co (truck driver)**[See Page 16]

Fred Klein, 141 Pine Knoll Dr, Fair Play, SC 29643-2829, WWII, Co C

Harry George Ballo, 2729 Charles Bryan, Bartlett, TN 38134, WWII, Co E

Austin "Jay" Roth, 4972 Chimineas Ave, Tarzana, CA 91356, **WWII, Co G** [previous member]

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS* (identified by *)

Joan Jurgens*, PO Box 3, Medora, ND 58645 (daughter of **Robert E. Helsper, WWII, Co K**)[See Pg 15]

Margaret Thorfinnson*, PO Box 168, Mountain, ND 58262 (father served in WWII ETO; interested in history)

Genā M. Capps*, 425 Howard Cir, Lincoln, AL 35096 (daughter of **SGM Joseph Castagneto**)

Beverly Wellentin*, Box 458, Cooperstown, ND 58425 (daughter of Ray Conlin, WWII)

NEW MEMBERS JOINED FOR LIFE!!

Sidney Moore, Apr- Oct: 4778 West Tobacco GDN RD, Watford City, ND 58854

Nov-Mar: 345 Meadows Dr, Springboro, OH 45066-8650

James D. Kieley, COL, AUS, Ret, 1833 Stone Mountain Road, Laurel Fork, VA 24352-3651

MEMBERS WHO RENEWED FOR LIFE!!

Gilbertson, Arnie(LM)(K), Box 298, Hillsboro, ND 58045

Dale J.A. Nelson (LM), 405 Glenwood Dr, Bismarck, ND 58504

ADDRESS CHANGES

July 06: Change: **Elroy O. Greuel** (LM), 1327 3rd St E, Unit C, West Fargo, ND 58078-4298

July 06: Change: **Edwin J. Kjelstrom**, 749 S 30th St, Apt 220, Grand Forks, ND 58201-4078

July 06: Change: **Harry Dolyniuk** (LM), 3051 Brookhaven Way, Augusta, GA 30909-2236

July 06: Change: **Bob McMillan**, 4243 Thousand Oaks Dr, Apt 231, San Antonio, TX 78217-1875

July 06: Change: **Betty Carter** (LM)*, 714 6th St N, Wahpeton, ND 58076-3859

July 06: Change: **CW5 Bradley R. Lupien**, 419 24th St, Apt 1, Fargo, ND 58103-1352

July 06: Change: **Harrol D. Collins** (LM), 616 W 5th St. Madison, MN 56256-1218

July 06: Change: **Orville N. Dodge**, 11645 N 25th Pl, Apt 113, Phoenix, AZ 85028-1845

July 06: Change: **Bernard B. Krisko**, PO Box 41, Belle Vernon, PA 15012-0041

July 06: Change: **Dave Ellis**, 1000 S. Main St. Apt 202, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538-2557

July 06: Change: **Donavan Oster**, 209 International Dr, Apt 5, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750-4640

Aug 06: Change: **Richard Stowell** (LM), c/o Laberta Stowell, 3701 Radcliffe Ave #240, Denver, CO 80236-3645

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!

Donations to the News \$							
Acampora, Janus	10	Gleason, Joseph	40	Sanderson, Gerald	15	Goddard, Howard	10
Alin, Robert	35	Gutterud, Melvin	10	Sinkbeil, Raymond	20	Gray, Paul	25
Anderson, Betty	10	Hanley, Arthur	35	Skogley, Gerald	10	Greuel, Elroy	10
Anderson, Morris	10	Heath, Otto	25	Sturn, Anton	20	Gummeringer, Joe	60
Anundson, Pearl	50	Hill, Evelyn	10	Trageser, Andrew	10	Hamer, George	30
Arneson, Irene	5	Hoff, Dolores	10	Wagner, Paulette	10	Heinz, Gregory	25
Avens, Luella	5	Hoffman, Donald	10	Whitman, Carl	10	Kane, Noma	10
Beaton, James	5	Holly, Earl D.	10	Wichmann, L. G.	50	Kloster, Lynn	15
Beer, Robert	10	Hopkins, George	10	Wichmann, Wendell	85	Knudson, Wilma	15
Bell, Charles	10	Jarvis, James	10	Wiest, A. F.	10	Kurtz, Balzer	15
Bjornstad, Harold	135	Jensen, Donald	10	Winkler, Randolph	10	Lystad, Kenneth	10
Burck, Keith	10	Kingston, Mary	85	Zettler, William	10	Macdonald, Alex	35
Burdette, Byron	35	Klipfel, Gordon	5	Total	\$1,395	Martin, Albert	35
Burns, Robert	10	Longmuir, Jerry	70			Massee, Hugh	15
Carey, Elliot	5	Love, Robert	5	General Contributions \$		Oshaben, Stanley	10
Castagneto, Joseph	185	Mathews, Ardis	5	Blecha, Esther	10	Paulson, John	25
Cruse, Robert	25	Maurseth, Gerald	10	Bogner, Vernon	10	Poe, Eureka	30
Dickerson, Paul	10	Mc Kay, Malcolm	10	Bostrom, Gordon	10	Starkenber, Wallace	85
Dolyniuk, Harry	35	McLaughlin, James	5	Castagneto, Joe	100	Tucker, William	30
Eide, Frank	5	Powers, Vince	20	Clarke, Finley	35	Tuff, William	15
Engbrecht, Ruth	35	Rahn, Edna	35	Coffey, Herbert	15	Total	\$635
Engstrom, Charlotte	10	Remmers, Ervin	20	Cruz, Cresencio	15		
Gadomski, Stanley	10	Rosalez, Joseph	10	Cuprak, Grant	15		
Garant, Lionel	5	Rothrock, Jane	5	English, Thomas	10		
		Salsman, Richard	5				

Last Roll Call

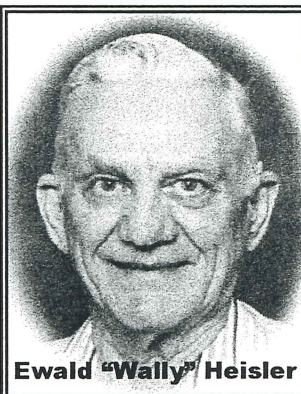
as of 10 Sep 06

CW4 (ret) Ewald Heisler, (K) Tank Co, 22 Jul 06
William Anundson, 6 Jun 06
CPT (ret) Weston L. Maly, 24 Jul 06
Merritt O. Ogren, (WWII) Hqs Det 3rd Bn, 30 Jun 06
Robert E. Helsper, (WWII) Co K, 14 Aug 92 [See page 15]
Bill Arwood, (WWII) Co E, 11 Mar 03 [See page 14]
Hiram O. McAdow (WWII), 23 May 05
Elmer L. Montgomery (WWII), 16 Jul 06
Louis L. Yearke (WWII) Co M, 25 Jul 06
John R. Barbero, Sr. (LM)(WWII), 25 Nov 05
Robert Hess (WWII) 12 Nov 05

These notifications arrived after the reunion arrangements had been made.

They be will be honored at next year's "Last Roll Call" at the 2007 reunion Memorial Service.

Brenton C Knudson(WWII) Co B, 10 Sep 05
Oscar Stockeland (K), 10 Sep 06
W. "Kenny" Bjornstad, (WWII), HHD 2nd Bn, 20 Jun 04
Benny Rosales, (WWII) Co C, 1965
Manuel Lopez (WWII), Co H, 1985
Tiadoro Rodriguez, (WWII), Co H, KIA 1944



Ewald "Wally" Heisler

Ewald joined the National Guard in Feb 1948 and became a full time employee in Dec 1948. Appointed a WOJG in Dec 1950 he entered Federal Service with Tank Co 164th Infantry on Jan 1, 1951. He served at Camp Rucker, Japan and Korea during which time he was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service. Upon release from active duty Ewald continued full time employment with the National Guard serving over 41 years. He was transferred from Harvey to Fraine Barracks, Bismarck in 1959 as a Field Auditor. Promoted to Supply Officer, Purchasing and Contracting Officer and Data Processing Supervisor followed. He proudly served in the National Guard and Active Service for 41 years and 3 months. Military grade Chief Warrant Officer-4.

He was a life member of the American Legion, VFW, Eagles, Elks, National Guard Assn, 164th Inf Assn and ND National Guard Officers Assn. He was most active in the Legion serving as Adjutant and Commander while in Harvey.

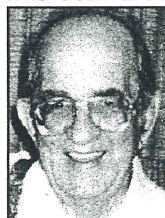
Elmer Leroy Montgomery, 87, of Manvel, ND, passed away July 16, 2006, at his home. He was born August 22, 1918, on a farm near Inkster, ND. Elmer was inducted into the United States Army on May 6, 1941 at Fort Snelling, MN. He was a member of 164th Infantry. He participated in the Guadalcanal Campaign and East Indies Campaign. He received the Presidential Unit Citation with



star, Good Conduct Metal, Asiatic Pacific Theater Service Medal, American Defense Service Metal, and Four (4) Overseas Service Bars. Elmer was discharged the 28th of June 1945 and resumed farming. Sunday mornings, while working in his shop, he'd crank up the radio and you could hear the music of Glenn Miller and other big bands across the farm yard. Elmer married Annabel Marie Ronan, who preceded him in death. He is survived by his children, Cynthia Haugen of Mekinock, ND, and Sally Dockter, Rhea Ferry, and Shawn Montgomery of Manvel.

BARBERO, John R., Sr., 89, of Tolland, CT, died November 25, 2005, at home. He was a World War II veteran serving in the South Pacific with the 164th Infantry. He was a lifelong fishing enthusiast - salt water in the summer and ice fishing on area lakes in the winter. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, John and Barbara Barbero of Tolland. He was predeceased by his wife Dorothy. Published in the Hartford Courant on 11/27/2005.

Louis L. Yearke, 89, of Grand Forks, ND died Tuesday, July 25, 2006 in Valley Eldercare Center, Grand Forks. He was born Dec. 29, 1916 in East Grand Forks, MN. Louis served in the U.S. Army in the Asiatic Pacific Theater during WW II, he was a member of the 164th Infantry and received the Bronze Star. He married Dorothy Knutsvig on June 11, 1949. Louis is survived by Dorothy who resides in East Grand Forks. Military Honors were provided by the EGF American Legion



Post # 157 and VFW Post # 3817. Published in the Grand Forks Herald

Hiram O. "H.O." McAdow, 88, Atchison, KS, died May 23rd, 2006. He was a World War II U.S. Army Veteran. Mr. McAdow fought in the South Pacific and Guadalcanal. Mr. McAdow worked for the City of Atchison for many years before retiring in 1980. He also owned and operated the McAdow Collectibles and Antiques for 15 years, and owned his own automotive shop. He was a life member of the American Legion Post #6, and VFW Post #1175, Atchison, KS, and the Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans. His wife, Alvenam preceded him in death in 1978. He is survived by his companion of 28 years, Ms. Vera Irvin.

This obit courtesy of Mr. Bryan Becker, Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home, Atchison, KS. www.beckerdyer.com/obituaries.html

If you know about the passing of a 164th veteran, let us know.
 Email obits to Editor164InfantryNews@hotmail.com
 Or mail to P.O. Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502-1111

More ...Last Memories

William D. Anundson, 68, died June 6, 2006, in Olympia, Wash. He was born Nov. 11, 1937, in Valley City, N.D.,



where he grew up and graduated from high school in 1955. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a medical technician, serving during the Korean War. He married Pearl Galbraith in Spokane, Wash. After his military discharge in 1960, they moved to Valley City, where he worked for Mercy Hospital and the Valley City Police Department. In June 1964, he graduated from Bismarck School of Nursing, and he received his commission in the U.S. Army in June 1965. He was stationed in Washington, Texas, California, Alaska, & Vietnam. He retired in 1983 and ran his own anesthesia service. He is survived by his wife, Pearl, and daughters Valerie & Lavonne Anundson, & Krissy Deyman.

Weston L. Maly, 76, Lewiston, MT, died 24 Jul 06. He was born 19 Oct 29, and graduated from Edgeley, ND, high school. He served in the ND Army National Guard for 23 years, retiring as a captain in 1971. He worked for electric cooperatives in Florida, and in Valley City and Edgeley, ND. He is survived by his wife, Janice; sons Ramon, Joe, and Shayne; and daughter Pamela. He is interred at the ND Veterans Cemetery, Mandan.

Merritt Ogren, 88, Edgeley, ND, passed away 30 Jun 06.



He joined the Army National Guard and was activated in 1941 to serve in the 164th Infantry until December 1944 in the Pacific Theater--Australia, Bougainville, Fiji, New Caledonia, and Guadalcanal. He is survived by wife of 62 years, Marguerite; daughter Meredith Meidinger (Jamestown, ND); sons

Bradley (Sioux Falls) & Corbley (Linton, ND).

W.K. (Kenny) Bjornstad, 84, answered the last roll call on June 20, 2004, at his home in Plainville, Kansas. Kenny enlisted in Hdqtrs Det, 2nd Bn, 164th, in 1939, and was inducted into the active service in 1941. The 164th shipped out for the South Pacific in the spring of 1942 and to Guadalcanal in Oct '42. Kenny served as a radio man on Tulagi and Guadalcanal. During R&R in Fiji, Kenny transferred to the Air Corps and was rotated back to the USA for training.

Oscar Stockeland, Hannaford, ND, passed away 10 Sep



06 at age 90. Oscar served his country as a member of the 164th Infantry from 1940 to 1944. He claimed the title of Americal Featherweight Boxing Champion of the Southwest Pacific in August 1944. He enjoyed farming and milking cows for many years. He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Inez Haugen. He is survived by daughters Ione Somsen, Kensal, ND; and Marlene Skjeret, Dazey, ND; and sons Don, Cooperstown, ND; and Jim, Hannaford.



Bill Arwood

Bill Arwood, 78, 110 Doe Lane, Roan Mountain, died Tuesday, March 14, 2006, at his residence.

Robert Hess, 88, Watertown, SD, passed away 12 Nov 05. He entered the Army in 1941 and was discharged in 1945. He earned the rank of Corporal and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Shirley, and daughters Sheryl Barnett, Colleen Paulson, and Shelly Jensen, all from South Dakota.

Brenton Carlyle Knudson passed away 10 September 2005 in Petaluma, CA, at age 82. (see Wilma's note below)

In Our Thoughts & Prayers....

On June 8th, **Ray Arneson** was accepted into the Veterans Home n Boulder City. His dementia had advanced significantly and we felt the VA could provide him the 24/7 care he needs. It was a difficult decision for the family. The home is beautiful and is only 15 minutes away. If you have a few minutes to drop him a note, his address is **Ray Arneson #445A**, 100 Veterans Memorial Drive, Boulder City, NV 89005. Please keep Ray and our family in your prayers as we journey through the sunset years. You are in our prayers, too. Sincerely, **Irene Arneson**, 1040 Atticus Ave, Henderson, NV 89015 P.S. Enclosed is my check for the newsletter. The raffle tickets are being returned. Thank you.

31 Aug 06 I got a phone call last night from Rita, COL **Howard Erickson's** daughter. Howard is now in the intensive care unit at the VA Hospital in Fargo. She said that she is sure that Howard would not be able to attend the 188th Reunion at Camp Grafton next weekend. I will keep everyone posted on his medical condition. Ben Kemp

Dear Bernie & All: I'm sorry to be so late – my life has been upside down. **Brent** passed away September 10, 2005. I've tried to write you several times, but never completed the task. Thank you for your newsletter. Brent and I always enjoyed the News. Keep up the good work!. I'm sending \$40 to use as you please. Needless to say, I won't be coming to the reunion, but I'll be thinking of you all in September. **Wilma Knudson** 820 Garfield Dr, Petaluma, CA 94964

To the 164th: Raymond Arneson is in the Veteran's Home since 8 Jun 06. Cards would be appreciated to **Raymond C Arneson**, Nevada State Veterans Home, 100 Veterans Memorial Dr, Boulder City, NV 89005. Thank you Please send the newsletter to my address. **Irene Arneson**, 1040 Atticus Ave, Henderson, NV 89015-5961



Greetings from your President!

We have just completed a successful Association Reunion. Thank you very much for your participation. I know that many of you purchased your tickets that were sent to you. This helps us with the expenses and keeps registration fees to a minimum.

Co "G" Reunion Committee will again be hosting the Reunion in Valley City on Sept 15,16,17, 2007.

A full slate of Officers will be published with the minutes in the newsletter. Again, Shirley has accepted the position of Editor of our newsletter.

Bernie
Bernie Wagner

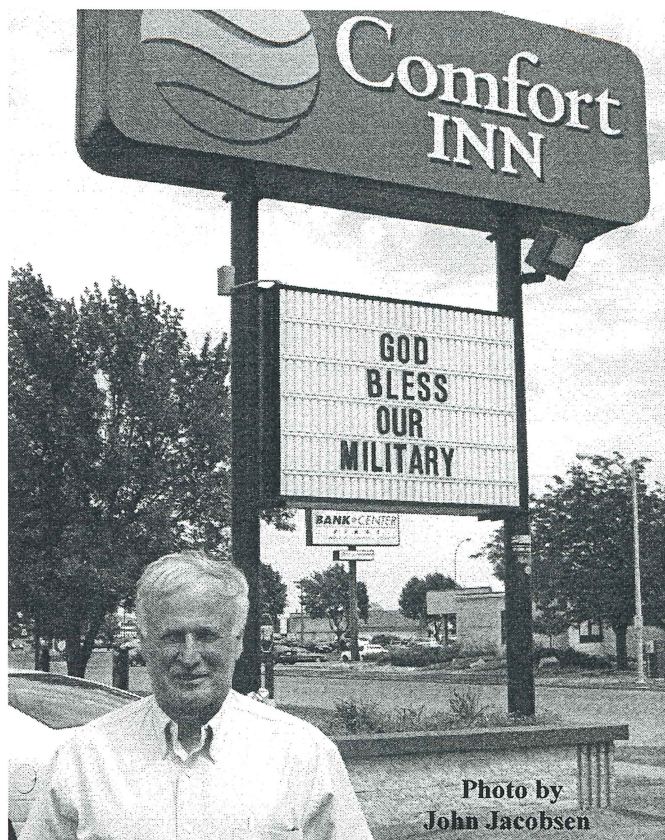


Photo by
John Jacobsen

Bob Balkowitsch, owner/manager of Comfort Inn, Bismarck, puts his thoughts in black & white, for all to see. Instead of specials and room rates, the motel billboard carried the statement, "**God Bless America**" after the 9/11 attacks and was changed to this sentiment during the war in Iraq. That's more than 5 years of blessings, folks! The Bismarck VFW recently presented him with an award to recognize his patriotism and dedication to "the American way".



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

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